



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer - (Most Rev.) James M. Wingle, D.D.
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Minutes of the Board Meetings
 - 5.1 January 27, 2009
 - 5.2 February 17, 2009
 - 5.3 February 18, 2009
 - 5.4 February 23, 2009

B. DELEGATIONS

1. Fishers of Men - Serra International

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program
St. Edward Catholic Elementary School
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009
and Consideration of Recommendations
 - 2.1 Funding of Capital Projects
 - 2.2 Financial Reports
 - 2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of January 2009
 - 2.2.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009
3. Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars: 2009-2010
4. Staff Development Department - Professional Development Opportunities
5. Long Term Financing of Approved Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2009
6. Dedication of the Catholic Education Centre Meeting Rooms to our Founding Religious Orders

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence
2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended
3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action
4. Board Submission to Governance Review Committee
5. Trustee Information
 - 5.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - February 10, 2009
 - 5.2 Second Annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast 2009
Monday, April 20, 2009 - Club Italia, Niagara Falls, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
 - 5.3 Trustee & Senior Staff Retreat
Thursday, February 26, 2009 - Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 5:00 p.m.

6. Open Question Period

(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night's public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA (Timed Item - 6:40 p.m.)

G. REPORT ON THE IN CAMERA SESSION

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
OF JANUARY 27, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Charbonneau.

2. Roll Call

Trustee Fera wished to participate electronically in the Board Meeting but was unable to get phone service in his current location.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustees Belcastro and Fera from attending the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro		✓
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera		✓
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire		✓
Christina Volpini		✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Marcel Jacques**, Program Officer - Student Support Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. *Disclosure of Interest*

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. *Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 16, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 16, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. *St. James Catholic Elementary School Choir*

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Dan Trainor, Principal of St. James Catholic Elementary School. Principal Trainor introduced Choir Leader Lori Kirk and the Choir who performed for the Board.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked the St. James Catholic Elementary School Choir for their performance and asked Trustees Charbonneau and Crole to present the students with Niagara Catholic District School Board Highlighters.

2. *Norah Morgan Award*

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, presented a brief background of the Norah Morgan Award which celebrates the contributions and achievements of elementary school Teachers who have made a strong contribution to the Arts. Jayne Evans, Music/FLS/ESL Consultant, introduced Lorrie MacKenzie, Principal of Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School. Principal MacKenzie spoke of the dedication of Teacher Anneliese Burke, the recipient of the 2009 Norah Jones Memorial Award.

Dr. Debra McLauchlan of the Carousel Players presented Ms. Burke with the Norah Morgan Award. Ms. Burke spoke of her love of the Arts and the important role it plays in education.

Chairperson Burtnik congratulated Ms. Burke on her achievements and thanked her for sharing her passion with the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. *School Excellence Program* *St. James Catholic Elementary School*

Director Crocco introduced the first presentation of the New School Board Excellence Program and stated that each Board Meeting Agenda will include a copy of the School Profile. Principals will make a 12 minute presentation broken down into three parts; Celebrate Success, highlighting the successes of their students and staff; Building Continuous Improvement, where the Principal will speak to each of the schools five school improvement categories; and Showcase, which will highlight one extraordinary item/initiative that makes their school an "indispensable choice for parents".

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells introduced Principal of St. James Catholic Elementary School, Dan Trainor. Principal Trainor presented the various highlights of the school.

Chairperson Burtnik and Director Crocco thanked Principal Trainor for the presentation.

2. *Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 13, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations*

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 13, 2009, as presented.
CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 13, 2009.

2.1 *Financial Reports*

2.1.1. *Monthly Banking Transactions*

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of December 2008, as presented for information.

CARRIED

2.1.2 *Statement of Revenue & Expenditures*

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at December 31, 2008, as presented for information.

CARRIED

3. *Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 3, 2008*

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 3, 2008, as presented for information.
CARRIED

3.1 *Resignation of Special Education Advisory Committee Member*

The report on the Resignation of Special Education Advisory Committee Member Jane Houlden of Autism Ontario is presented for information.

4. *Director's Annual Report 2008*

Director Crocco presented the report on the newly formatted Director's Annual Report 2008 for information. He stated that the 2008 Annual Report contains all of the information as required by the Minister of Education on Program and Services in 2008.

5. *Pupil Accommodation Review Special Board Meetings Schedule and Guidelines*

Director Crocco presented the report on the Pupil Accommodation Review Special Board Meetings Schedule and Guidelines for information as a reminder to the community of the three Special Board Meetings for Public Input in February as part of the process towards a follow-up Staff Report and the Decision by the Board on May 26th, 2009.

In addition to the posting these meeting dates in the Pupil Accommodation Review Section of our website, the dates and times have also been posted on our website under Board Meetings.

6. *Staff Development Professional Development Opportunities*

Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, introduced Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, who presented the report on Staff Development Professional Development Opportunities.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. *Correspondence*

Nil Report

2. *Report on Trustee Conferences Attended*

2.1 *OCSTA Labour Relations Seminar*

Trustees were asked to contact Sherry Morena if they are interested in attending the OCSTA Labour Relations Seminar.

3. *General Discussion to Plan for Future Action*

Nil Report

4. *Trustee Information*

4.1 *Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - January 13, 2009*

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - January 13, 2009 issue for trustees' information.

4.2 *Director's Letter to Parents/Guardians regarding Cancelling Buses and Closing Schools*

Director Crocco presented the Director's Letter to Parents/Guardians regarding Cancelling Buses and Closing Schools for trustees' information.

4.3 Bishop's Gala - January 30, 2009

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that the 5th Annual Bishop's Gala takes place on Friday, January 30, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Club Italia in Niagara Falls.

4.4 SpeakOut 2009 - Catholic Education Centre - February 9, 2009

Director Crocco presented information on SpeakOut Showcase 2009 - Catholic Education Centre - February 9, 2009.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of December 16, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of January 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of December 16, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of January 13, 2008, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the January 27, 2009 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held January 27, 2009.

Approved on the 24th day of February 2009.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 17, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School in Niagara Falls.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Fera.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Crole from attending the Special Board Meeting of February 17, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole		✓
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire		✓
Christina Volpini		✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. **Overview of Special Board Meeting Procedures**

Chairperson Burtnik welcomed all those in attendance, and gave an overview of the Special Board Meeting Procedures. It was reiterated that this Meeting is being held in order to provide an opportunity for public input and for the Board to listen and ask questions of clarification regarding pupil accommodation review.

Chairperson Burtnik affirmed that the recommendations resulting from the Special Board Meetings and subsequent meetings of Senior Staff will be presented in a Senior Staff Follow-Up report at the March 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The audience was advised of the approved Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input and the Delegation Application Process, which required written applications requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2009.

Trustees received copies of the written submissions on February 10, 2009 allowing them the opportunity to thoroughly review the submissions prior to the presentations.

B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **Pupil Accommodation Review Highlights and Recommendation**

John Crocco, Director of Education, presented the Pupil Accommodation Review highlights and recommendations currently being proposed as a result of the Accommodation Review Committee recommendations and the subsequent Senior Staff review.

Director Crocco reviewed the process followed along with the approved schedule of events, and stated that all presentations and correspondence are posted on the Board's Website under the Pupil Accommodations Review Tab.

C. DELEGATIONS

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY

1. St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School

Anna Racine, Co-Chair of the St. Thomas More Catholic School Council, made a presentation on behalf of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

2. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Anna Racine, Community Representative, made a presentation on behalf of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

3. St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls

Melissa Hesse, Community Representative, made a presentation on behalf of St. Mary Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

Chairperson Burtnik asked Director Crocco to clarify the following issues and questions raised within Ms. Hesse's presentation which resulted in the following responses:

Warren Woods is still on the table for the new subdivision. Has property been purchased by the School Board or serviced by a developer?

- The School Board has not purchased property in the Warren Woods Subdivision, and it currently is being serviced by a developer.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls received money in the form of grants from the Ontario Government. What happens to that money if St. Joseph closes?

- The approximately \$250,000 in Ministry of Education grants received by St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls purchased resources for students, books, professional development for staff etc. If St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School closes the resources would be shared amongst other schools.

When does the Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review meet? The whole city should have been included. Has there not been a city wide review before?

- The Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee held its last major review in the 2003-2004 school year and reviewed boundaries for 11 elementary schools. An Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee could be formed as a result of the Pupil Accommodation Review recommendations to begin in September 2009.

Part of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School's recommend boundary is now within the Saint Paul Catholic Secondary School boundary. For children living in Coronation Park Area, will they be forced to leave Saint Michael Catholic High School?

- The potential change in boundaries may result in a shift within population of the schools and a decision will be made based on complete information at the time.

The City of Niagara Falls has requested that Region expand the urban boundary for the north west area, making St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School within that boundary of an already crowded school. Is the trend toward Big Box Schools? We live in an area where this isn't necessary, due to population numbers.

- We have been informed that the Region denied the City's request. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has most recently approved two new smaller elementary schools in Grimsby. St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary Schools of approximately 230 and 350 students rather than one school of 500 plus students.

4. Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

Shawn Gratton, Chair of the Father Hennepin Catholic School Council, made a presentation on behalf of Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS& OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls

Director Crocco presented a request to appear as a delegation to the Special Board Meeting of Tuesday, January 17, 2009, by Beverley Riemersma and Wendy Moulton of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls. He explained that the request was not submitted within the timeline stated in the Delegation Application Process, but that the correspondence is provided for all Trustees and will be considered in the Senior Staff Follow-Up report.

E. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

1. Special Board Meeting - Wednesday, February 18, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Denis Morris Catholic High School
2. Special Board Meeting - Monday, February 23, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Denis Morris Catholic High School

F. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

G. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the February 17, 2009 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 17, 2009.

Approved on the 24th day of February 2009.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

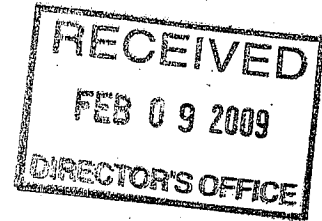
**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
ANNA RACINE - ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

6247 Kirkland Drive
Niagara Falls, Ont.
L2H 2A7
(905) 358-3412
Wk – (905) 354-1611, Ext. 263
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E-mail: racine@martinshep.com

**SENT BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
AND BY COURIER**

February 8, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road,
Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Attention: John Crocco, Director of Education

Dear Mr. Crocco:

RE: Request for opportunity to delegate in order to make a presentation at the Special Board Meeting regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls

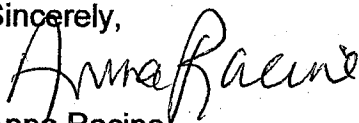
On behalf of the Catholic School Council of St. Thomas More Catholic School, I am requesting the opportunity to delegate at the Special Board Meeting to be held on February 17, 2009.

I will be making the presentation on behalf of the Catholic School Council, in my position as Co-Chair of the Catholic School Council of St. Thomas More Catholic School. My contact information is listed above.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the presentation notes which will speak to a Power Point document that will be presented at the same time. I also enclose a copy of the Power Point Document.

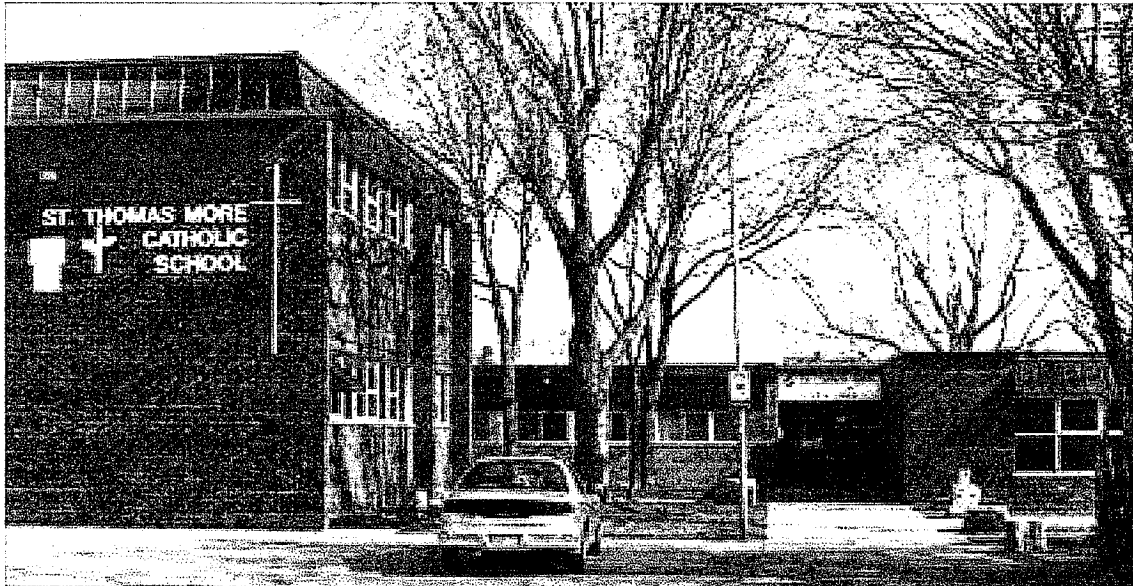
Thanking you in advance for the opportunity to delegate.

Sincerely,


Anna Racine,
Co-Chair

St. Thomas More Catholic School Council

St. Thomas More School



*We aim to create
and maintain
an environment that is
inviting, collaborative
and secure.*

*Our school is Christ-centred
and is peopled by
teachers and support staff
who are dedicated
to empowering all children
to achieve success.*

- School Mission Statement

Introduction

In the past, the St. Thomas More community has been bombarded with comments such as:

“It is a sign of the past,” or “There is only one other school like yours,” and the all time favorite, “It’s so close to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.”

“Other schools have K-8, it’s worked for them, so why is your school so special?”

Sit back, listen and we will show you just how special our unique little school is.

Purpose of Presentation

The purpose of our delegation tonight is to give you a glimpse into the life of a primary school, a school we love to fight for, St. Thomas More.

It is About the Kids and Not About the Money

Our hope is that children are not being used as a commodity and that the decisions that are made are not primarily based on dollar signs.

The future of our school is partially dependent upon the building of a new school in Warren Woods. Our parents feel that students do not necessarily need new fancy buildings with marble floors and a fountain in the lobby. These superficial features can never replace the reputation that our school has earned over the years for being one of the best schools in the Board. Any updated equipment and technology that a new school could offer can be installed in an older school just like it can be in a new school. Many of us over the years, when being asked what school our children attended, have been met with comments from other parents, such as “you are lucky, I have heard that is such a great school”.

The fact that the District School Board has recently built a new school near the Warren Woods subdivision should not be the deciding factor, in making this decision. The reality is that there are already two top notch schools in St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Mount Carmel that can accommodate the future Warren Woods children, in an atmosphere that is unique to other schools.

Little Kids Need More

As we all know, the needs of younger children are so much different than older children, and the younger they are, the more impressionable they will be.

When children start JK, it is a frightening time for many students, as well as their parents. In a K to 8 School, there are a higher percentage of older kids than in a primary school, and as a result, many more adults in terms of teachers and staff.

Many young children can feel intimidated by this, rather than in a primary school where the oldest child in attendance is at the most, only 5 years older than the youngest child. This reduces the worry that these young children may feel inhibited, forgotten, and become withdrawn as can happen in a regular elementary school. This is not as likely to happen in the primary setting, because as the younger children will say there are no "big kids here". There is less chance that these little children will feel like they are being swallowed up in a larger school, because of the presence of older students and many more adults on staff.

The primary "whole school expertise," helps students develop intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. There is a very tight commonality in instruction, skill based and extra curricular activities. A primary school grants more opportunity for specialized primary instruction because all staff will be administering the same division of teaching and assessment strategies. Greater staff commonality results in improved student achievement and improves the teachers' ability to deal with classroom management, organization, use of space, instructional focus, and delivery.

Keeping in mind that all schools have good teachers, we feel that the qualities of the primary teachers are better in a primary school setting than in a regular elementary school. When teachers move around a school to a different grade (because of leaves and other reasons), in a K to 8 School you could have a grade 8 teacher who is now teaching Kindergarten or Grade 1 if the need arises. In a primary school, no matter where the teachers move within the school, they have the advantage of being trained to teach primary grades and to deal with primary children exclusively. We feel that the effect of this experience is immeasurable, and provides for more quality teachers in the primary grades.

The Broken Triad

St. Thomas More School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel are fortunate to have a church in their own backyard which we feel is a blessing to our students. This close proximity is paramount to reinforcing the triad between home, school, and church. What can strengthen the children's faith more, than being able to look across their school yard to see their school parish? This would not be available to the Warren Woods students if they were not afforded the opportunity to attend our school.

St. Thomas More School is built on over 50 years of faith from the early teachers and principals of the school, as well as the families that have gone through over the years, which cannot be replaced by a new school. The faith development that has happened in this primary setting over the years is second to none. There are no older kids around who can unfortunately act like "it is not cool" to participate in the religious activities. Grade 3 students do not feel embarrassed to participate which is a strong influence on the faith development of the younger children.

As a result, when the primary students of St. Thomas More attend weekly mass they are very well behaved and respectful of where they are. This chain of faith carries over when they graduate and go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

If a new school is built for Warren Woods, those students would have to be bussed to St. Thomas More Church which would result not only in a cost, but the children may not attend mass as often, as it is not within walking distance. As St. Thomas More is in close proximity to the church, even in inclement weather, the children are able to attend weekly mass; if students had to be bussed, safety becomes a concern.

The Benefits of a Sheltered Environment

The experts say that from birth to 5 years old is when a child's personality is formed, thus making this their formative years. A primary setting benefits the children as it allows them to stay children a little longer, without the influence of older children as long as possible. Being away from older children allows them to build personality and self esteem, and lets them find out who they are, without the pressures and influences that can be felt when older children are present.

Playground Atmosphere

The stresses that older children can present in a playground environment, such as bullying, fighting, and misbehaving, do not become a part of the younger children's day in a primary environment.

Primary children are a lot easier to redirect when older children are not involved. Younger children are more apt to ask a teacher for help if not feeling pressured by older children.

Younger children may feel that they will be bullied by older children if they report a problem to the teacher. Grade 3 children will still report bullying problems if they are in a primary setting, and this sets a good example for the younger children so they will feel comfortable in doing so also.

It seems to make sense that where there is less of a variance in ages, there are fewer problems and confrontations on the playground.

Uniqueness of our School Setting

If you have been in our school, you will see the handprints on the walls and on the ceiling tiles of every single student who has graduated from the school. These symbolic memories leave an impression on our students and years later when these children return to the school for various reasons, the first thing they do is to find their handprint. This has been part of our tradition at St. Thomas More, and is a reflection of how important each and every student's time was at the school. We will fight with all the strength in our hands to continue this legacy.

When walking through the school, you will also see the primary type hallways which tweak the children's imagination. All the walls in the school are geared to a primary environment, and create an atmosphere which is conducive for young minds to learn and grow. Even the gym walls are brightly painted and are inspiring to the children.

In addition, our primary school offers more enriched opportunities and individualized learning centers.

Insofar as St. Thomas More is a primary school, all of the furniture and accessories in the school are geared to primary. Blackboards, cupboards, chairs, desks are all the right size and height for our students. In a regular elementary school, because the classrooms are interchangeable in that a grade 1 class might become a grade 6 class, this is not always possible. In a primary school, the classrooms and their contents will always be age and size appropriate.

Growing up in Steps and Stages

As kids progress to grade 3, they see what its like to be a senior in a school and when they experience the transition to enter Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Grade 4, they experience what it's like to enter a new school again and be the youngest in the school. Students learn what it's like to climb up the ladder on their way up to high school and beyond. Parents also experience what it's like to support their children when transitioning to a new school.

Children that are in a K to 8 School never get to experience this again until they go to high school, which to many can be frightening, but less likely for those that have attended a senior elementary school and experienced what this is like.

A primary school gives the children ways to develop skills of leadership. In a normal elementary school the senior grades take on the leadership roles and do most of the work as far as planning masses, faith services, and special school activities. In a K to 8 School, the primary children aren't given as much of an opportunity to plan and participate in these events.

A primary school creates more opportunity for better spiritual enrichment and self esteem. When the children are reading at mass and participating as gift bearers, this promotes a sense of independence and self confidence, especially with public speaking. It has been proven that the opportunities of participating in these events would promote further faith development.

The added responsibilities that children receive in a primary setting as there are no older kids to take on most of these jobs, results in there becoming more self sufficient and independent.

Community Building

The families of a primary school have a closer community as the children at the school are of similar ages, and have similar needs and expectations. Parents have

more in common because of this and work well together for the good of the school and the students.

Increased Parental Involvement

Parents of primary school students want to volunteer more, both because the children are little, and also because the children want their parents there. As children get older, parents go back to work and are not as readily available to volunteer. In a K to 8 School, parents are not needed as much because grade 7 and 8's do much of the activities normally done by parents (such as Pizza, Milk, reading to younger children, etc.). This makes the parents feel less connected and less welcome in the school.

Cost Savings to the Ministry

By keeping the boundaries the same, future students from Warren Woods would attend St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Mount Carmel and therefore there would be no cost to the Ministry to build a new school, at a cost savings of approximately 6 million dollars, along with a savings of approximately 2 million dollars to renovate Our Lady of Mount Carmel to accommodate St. Thomas More students. This would save approximately 8 million dollars that could be spent elsewhere. This would also result in eliminating or greatly reducing the surplus space at St. Thomas More School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel by accommodating the Warren Woods students.

Bus Rides from Warren Woods

Despite having to bus children from Warren Woods to St. Thomas More School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, such a ride would only be minimal.

Children would be traveling on major roads along this bus route, and the buses would not be crossing any railway tracks. This keeps the ride short and safe, as McLeod Rd and Dorchester Road are major roads, and are highly maintained in the winter season.

Classroom Libraries and School Library

Our students are fortunate that the reading materials in the classrooms and in the library are geared only to primary grades, therefore the money received by the school to purchase the reading materials is divided only between 5 grades instead of 10 grades; this results in the students having a larger selection of materials to choose and learn from, which can only add to increasing their literacy skills.

Physical Education Time

Insofar as St. Thomas More students range from JK to Grade 3, they do not have to share the gym with the intermediate and senior grades. This means that they have a

longer gym time and have gym more often. Even with the inclusion of Warren Woods's students, the students would all be of primary age, and they would still have the increased amount of physical activity, because they could participate together and would be doing similar activities.

Reading Recovery Training Area

The Reading Recovery Training Area has already been established at St. Thomas More School and is used by teachers and families throughout the Board. This would have to be moved to another location as a result of the possible school closure.

Use of the Property if the School is Closed

As the school is located next to St. Thomas More Church and adjacent to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the property is not as viable as others, insofar as the Board will have to ensure that any future use, must be appropriate for the area.

This property is also located in an older neighborhood and the residents are used to having the school there. There is a great concern among the neighbors that the new use may not fit in with the neighborhood.

A consideration would also have to be that if the building is torn down or undergoes extensive construction that the students walking to Our Lady of Mount Carmel past the St. Thomas More property while construction is underway, the safety of the children would not be at risk.

Conclusion

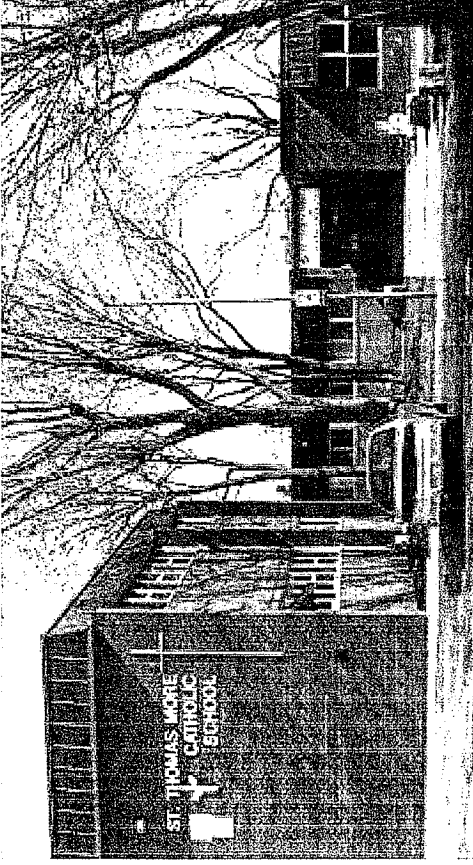
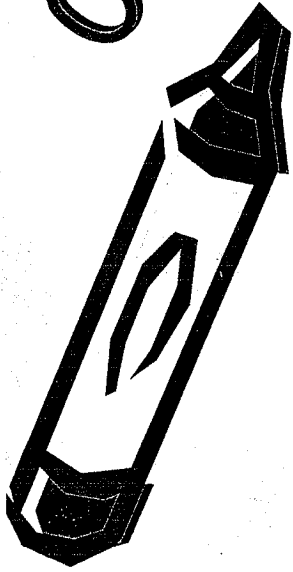
Our schools motto has been "the school of great kids" and "the school with a little more"

I hope you will continue to allow our future St. Thomas More Cubs the opportunity to experience the uniqueness that is St. Thomas More for many years to come,

The old saying is "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

The sister schools of St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Mount Carmel have worked side by side educating students in their own special environment by offering a primary and senior elementary experience for their students. The system is definitely not broken and it does not need to be fixed!

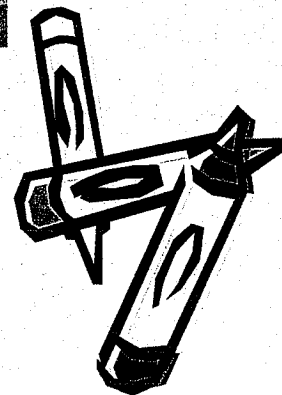
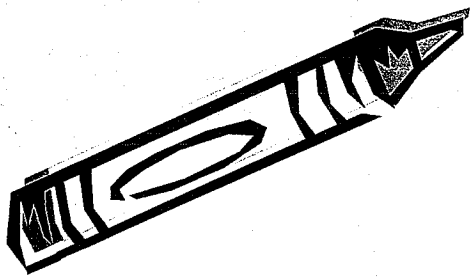
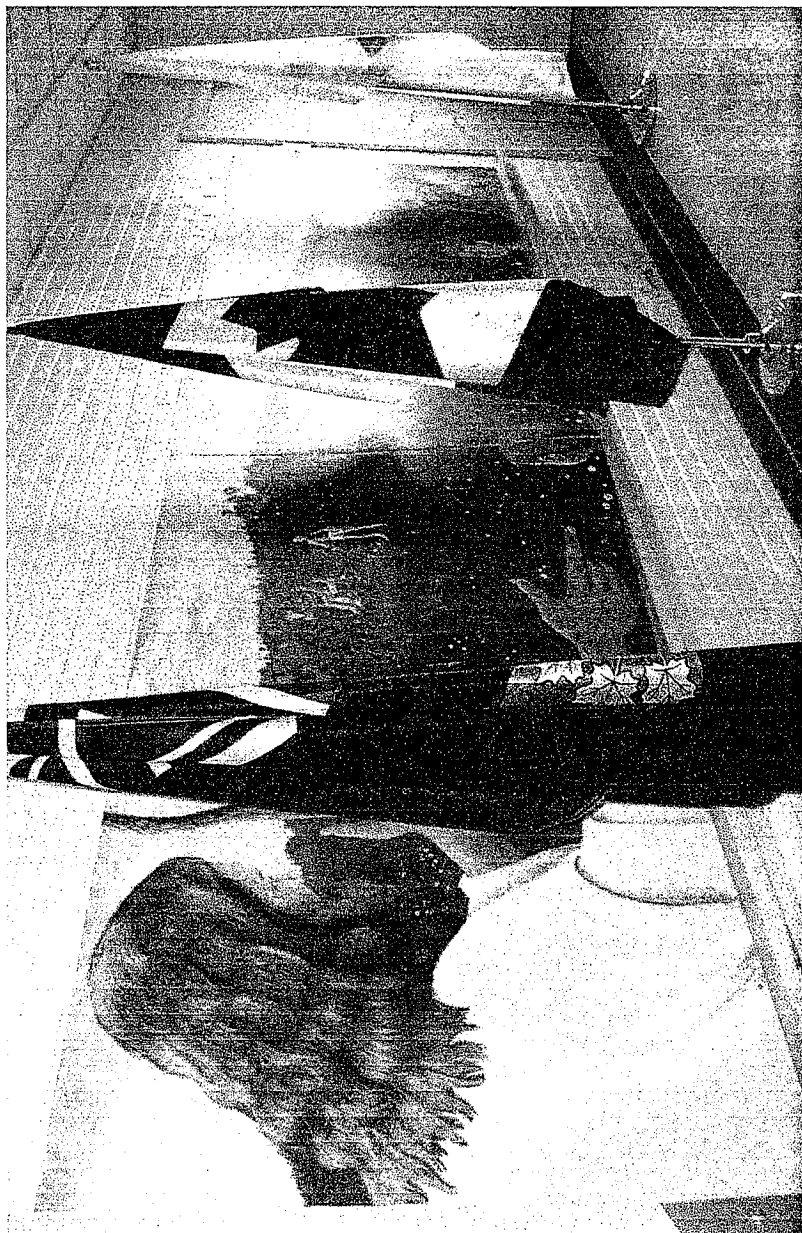
St. Thomas More Catholic School



The School With A Little
"More"

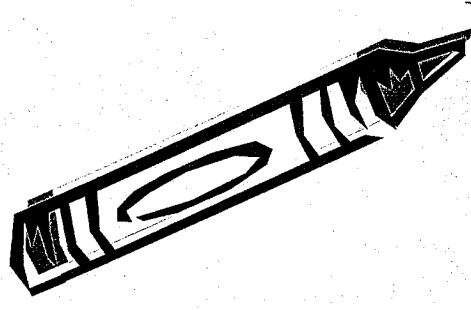
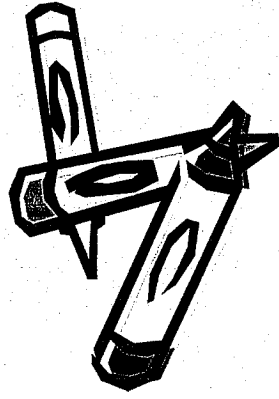


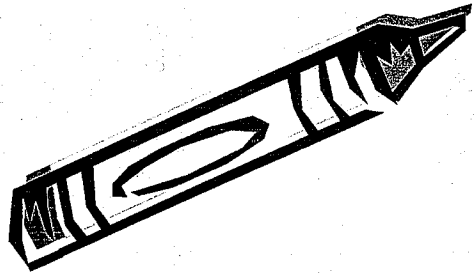
Why is our school so special?



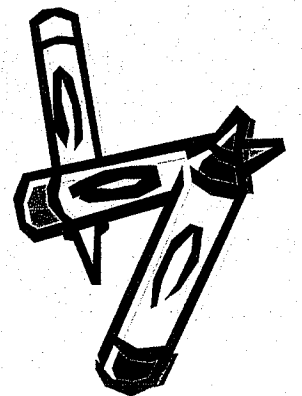
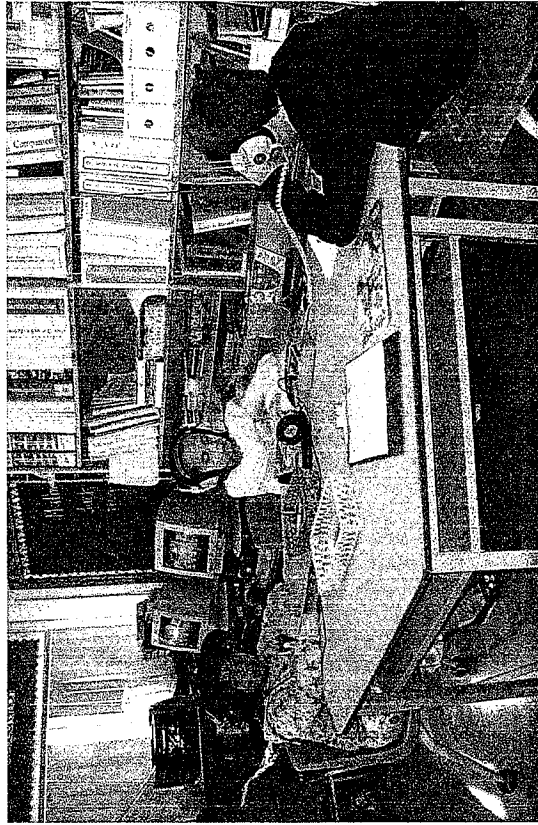
It's All About The Kids

- ✂ "You are so lucky! I've heard that it's such a great school"
- ✂ Fancy buildings can't teach a child, specialized primary instruction does.
- ✂ Technology is great but knowledge, faith, and wisdom are better.





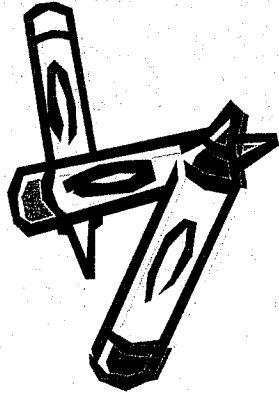
Instructional Opportunities

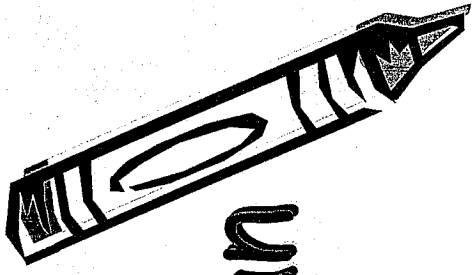




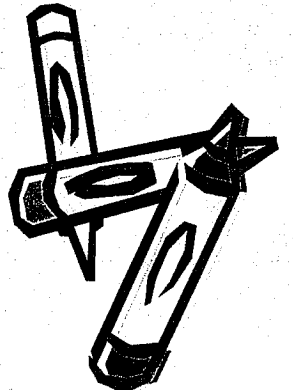
Little Kids Need More

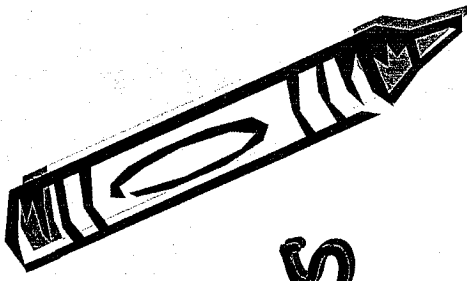
- ✂ All teaching and activities are age specific
- ✂ Our teachers are all primary specialists
- ✂ Only 5 years separates our oldest to youngest



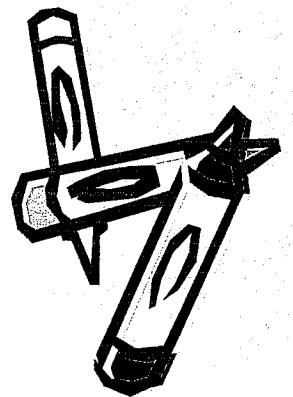
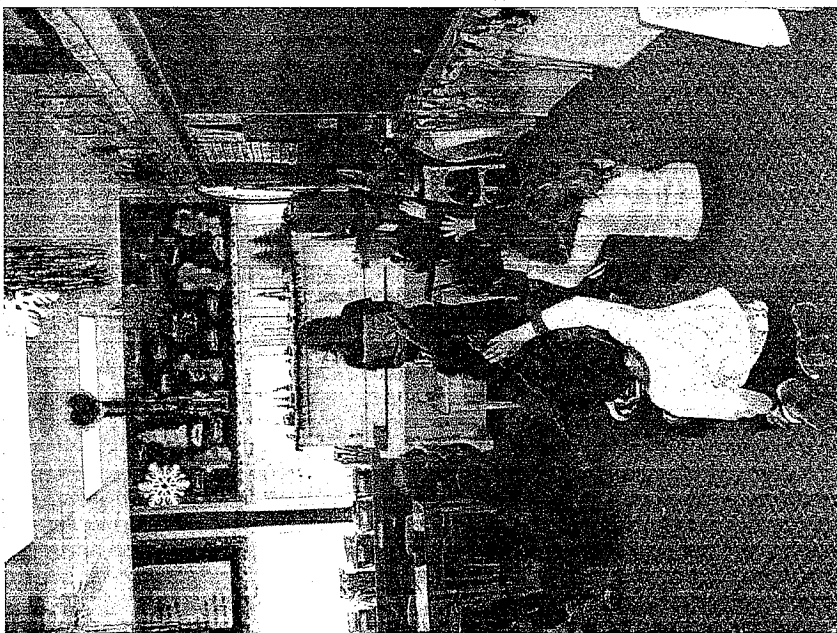
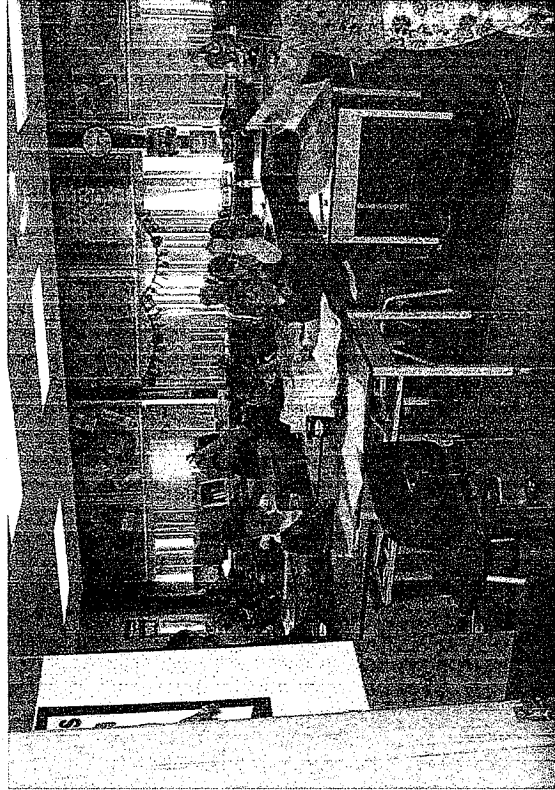


I think I can, I think I can

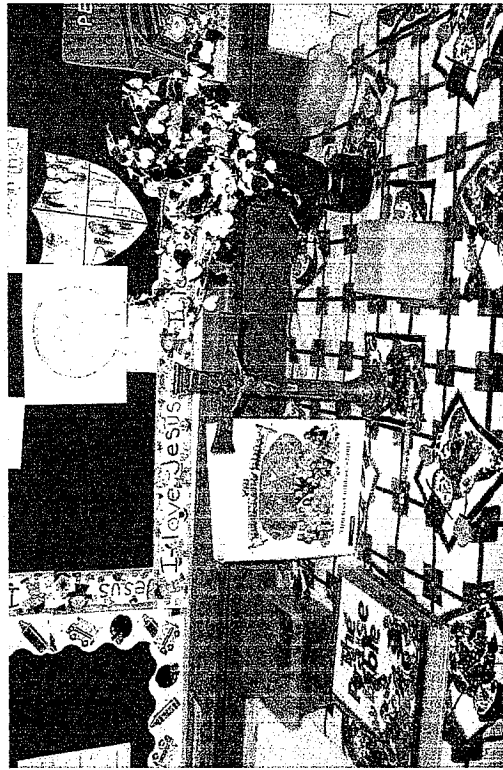




Caution: Minds Under Construction

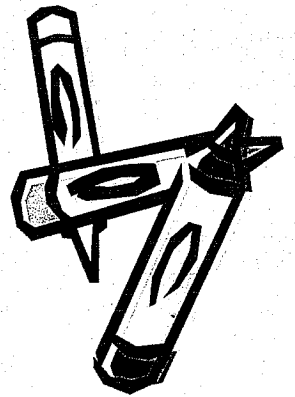
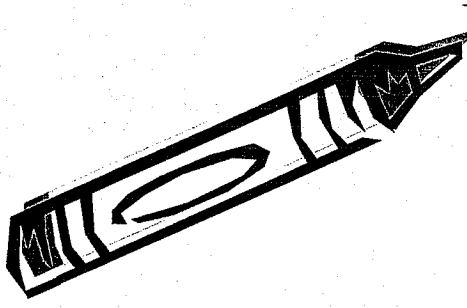


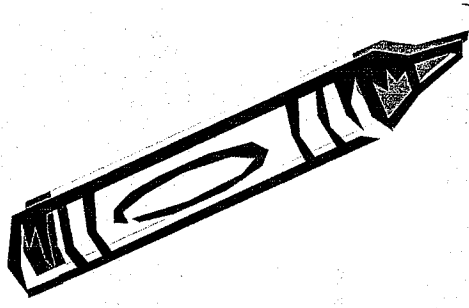
The Broken Triad



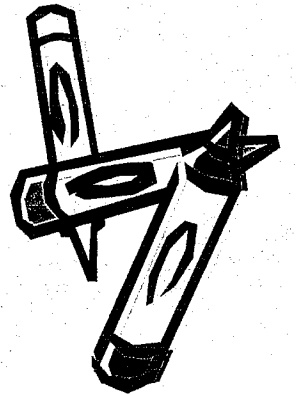
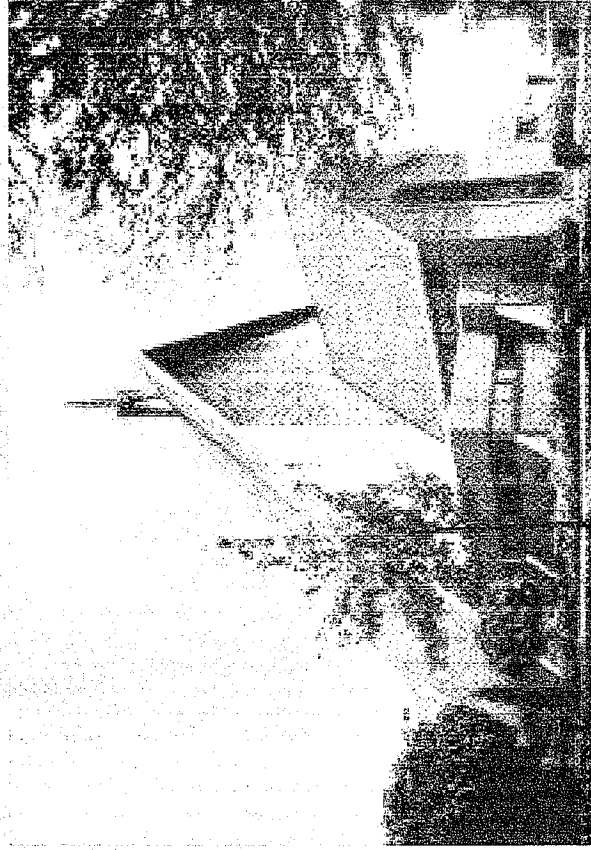
- † The chain of faith carries over when students graduate
- † 50 + years of faith

- † Our church is our blessing
- † Our children are our angels
- † God Bless St. Thomas More School



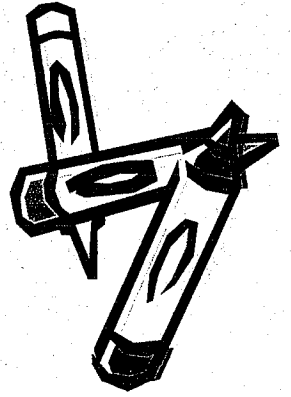
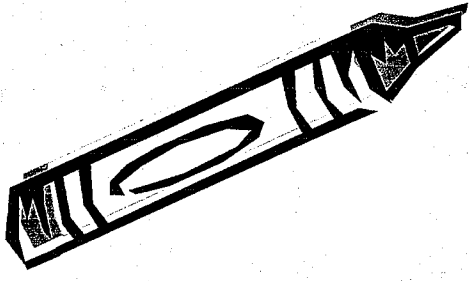
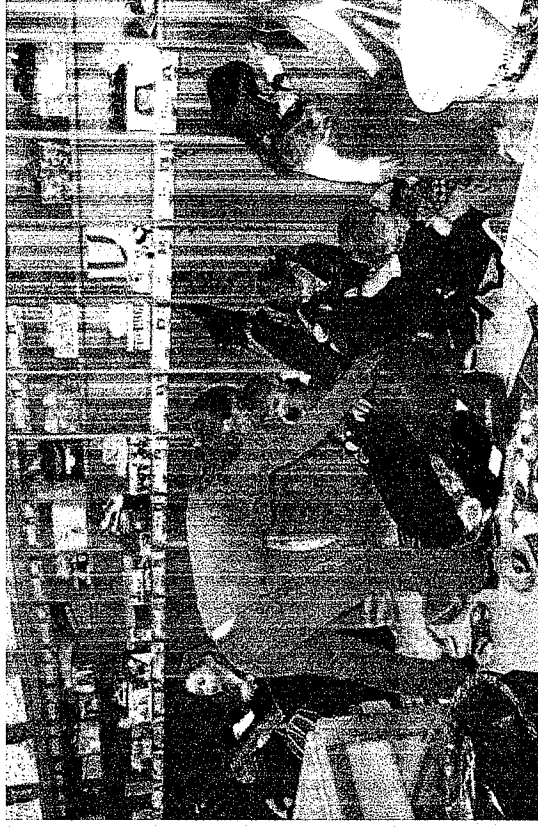


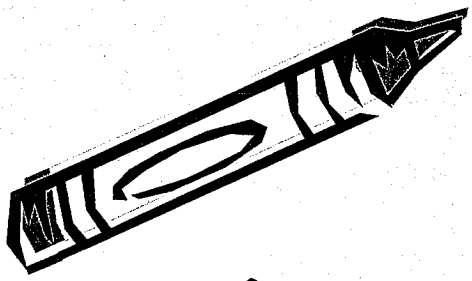
St. Thomas More Catholic Church



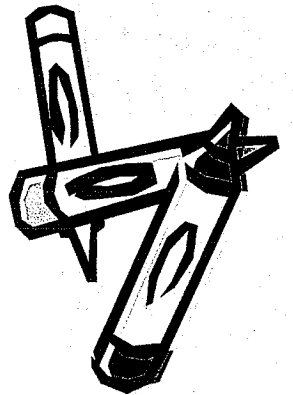
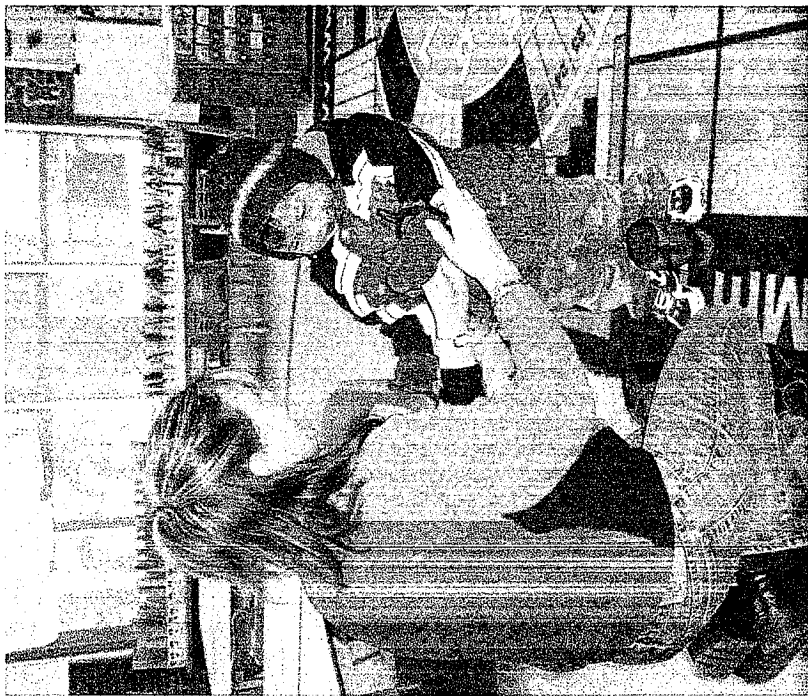
The Benefits of a Sheltered Environment

- ✂ Birth - 5 years old are the formative years
- ✂ Let kids be kids
- ✂ Build personality and Self Esteem



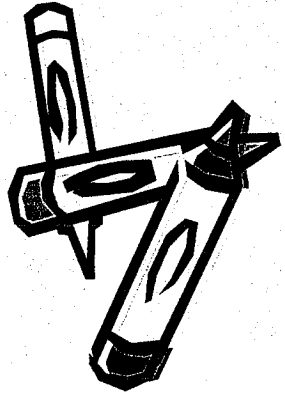
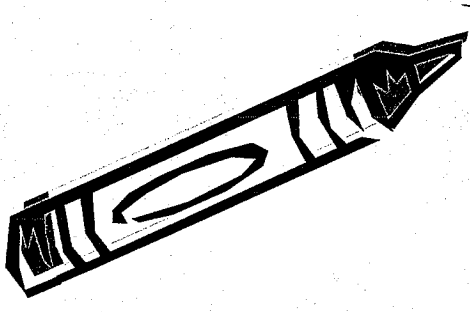


Thank you for taking the
Time!



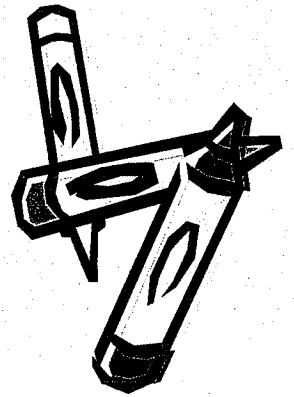
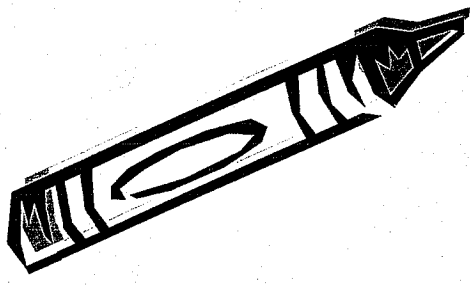
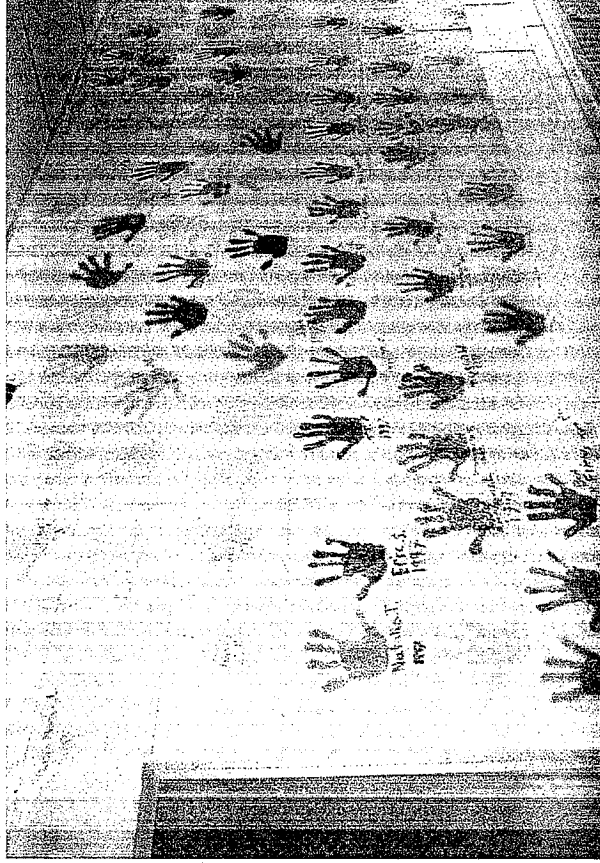
Playground Atmosphere

- ✂ Safer playground environment
- ✂ Less bullying, fighting, and misbehaving
- ✂ Fewer problems and confrontations
- ✂ Social freedom among peers

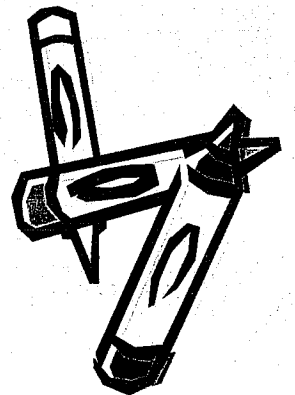
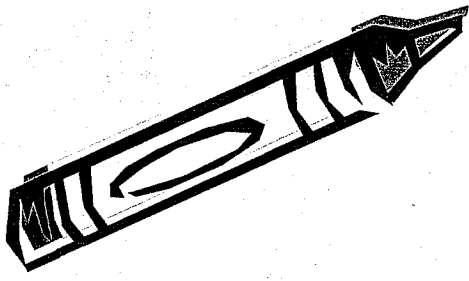


Uniqueness of Our School Setting

- ✂ Handprints leave an impression
- ✂ Primary halls stimulate imagination
- ✂ Atmosphere conducive to young learners

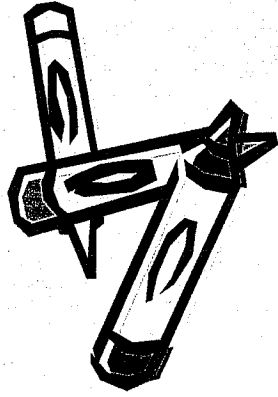
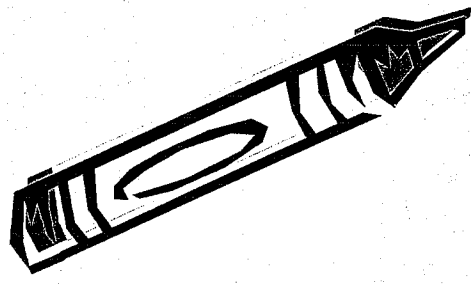


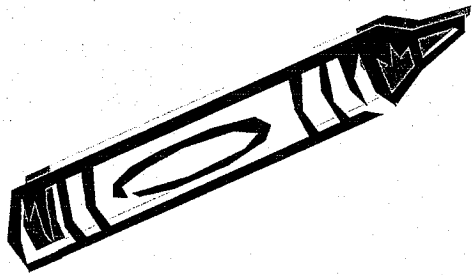
History in The Making



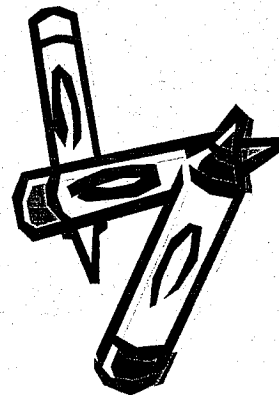
Growing Up in Steps & Stages

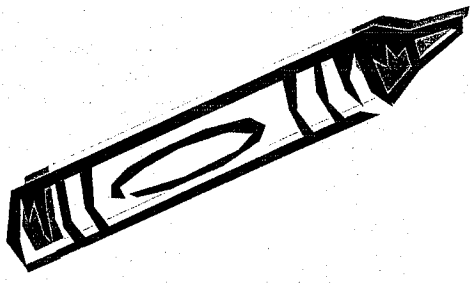
- ✂ Transitioning into Grade 4 and a new school
- ✂ New experiences for students and parents
- ✂ Develop skills of leadership
- ✂ Growth in spiritual enrichment and self esteem
- ✂ Learning to be self sufficient and independent



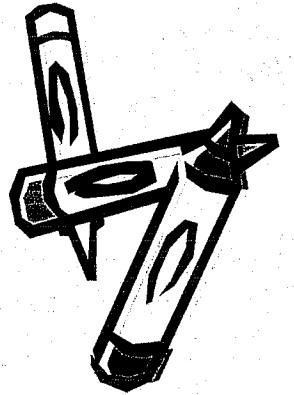


JK Graduation



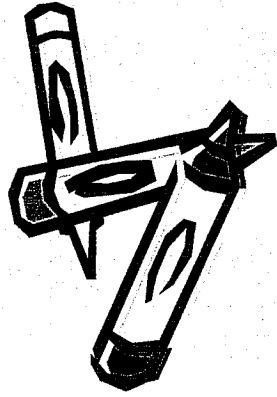
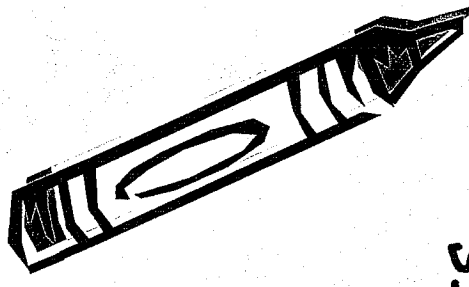


Community Building

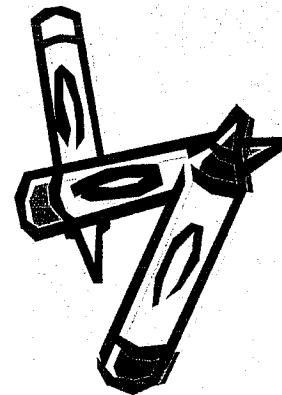
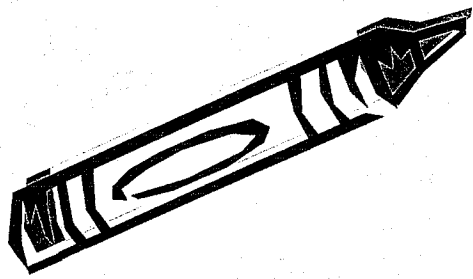
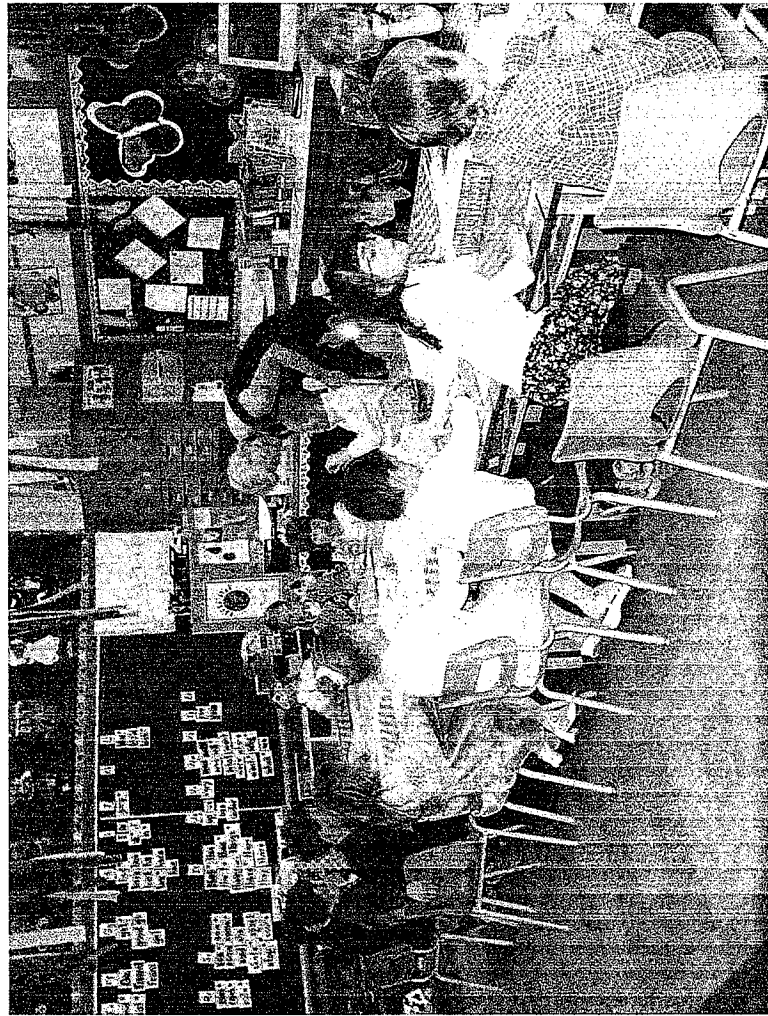


Increased Parental Involvement

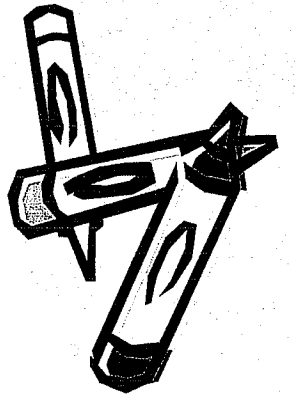
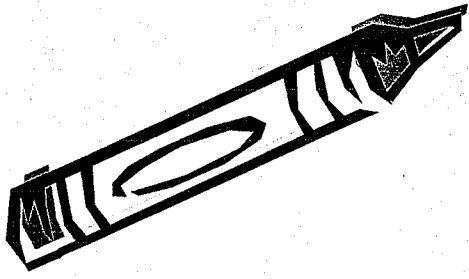
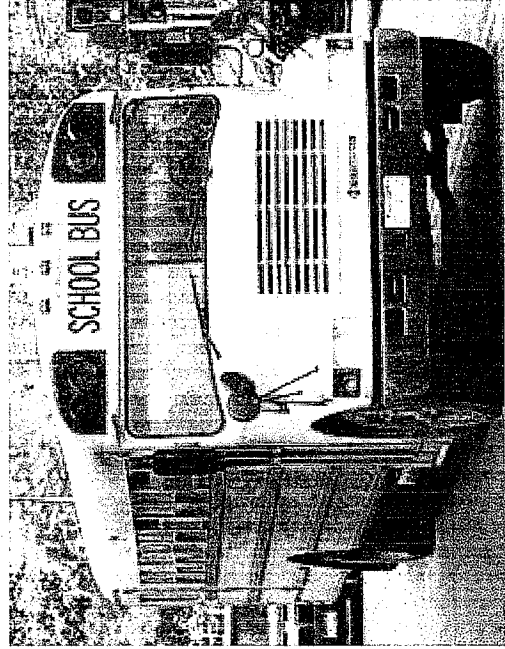
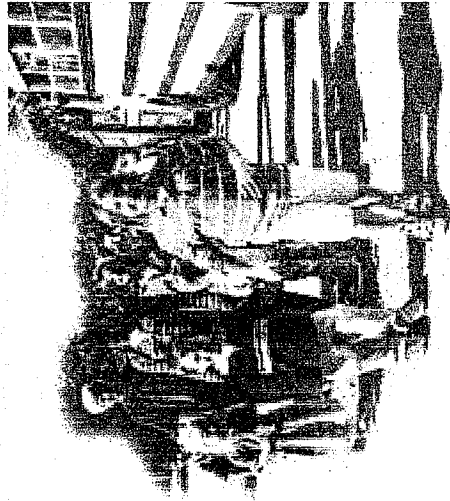
- ✂ Small children like to have their parents visible in the school. It makes them feel secure
- ✂ As children get older, parents aren't as readily available to volunteer
- ✂ In a K to 8 School parents are not needed as much because the grade 7 & 8 students do much of the work.

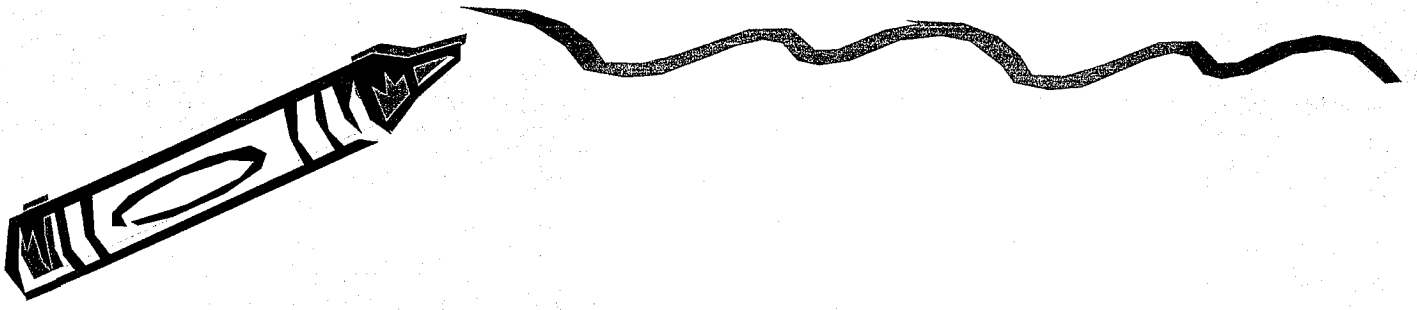


Cost Savings to the Ministry

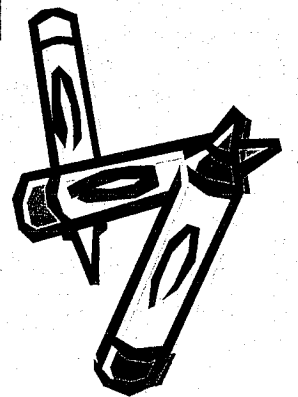


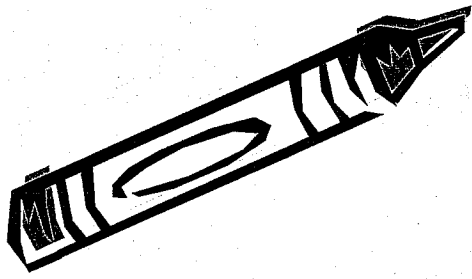
Bus Rides from Warren Woods



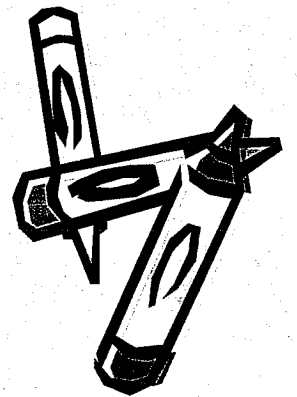
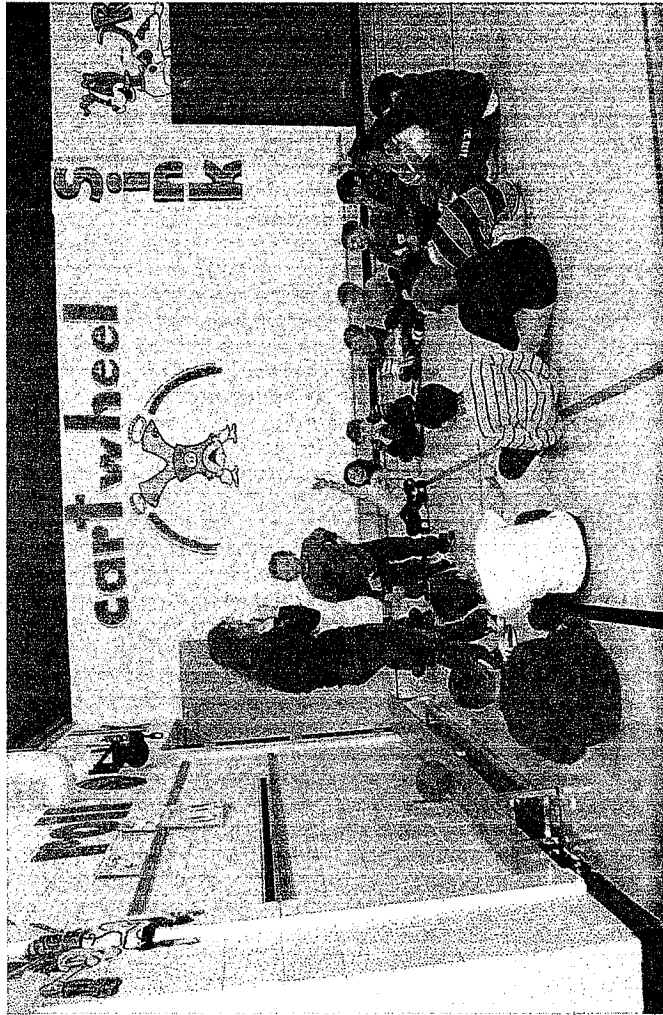


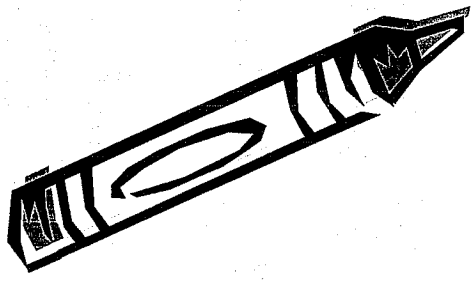
Library



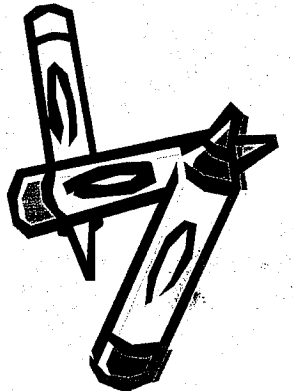


Physical Education Time

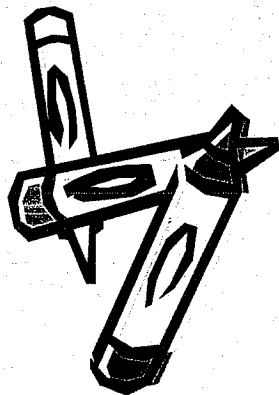
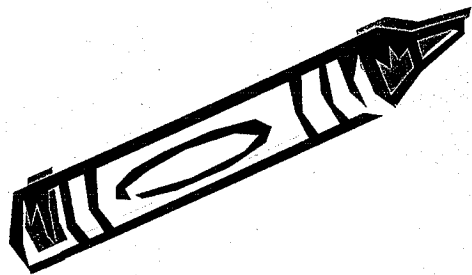




Reading Recovery & Training Area



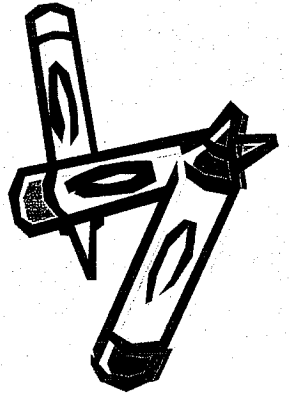
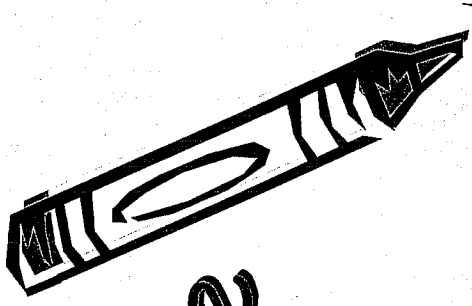
Use of the Property if The School is Closed



The School With A Little "More"

We aim to create
and maintain
an environment that is
inviting, collaborative
and secure.
Our school is Christ-centred
and is peopled by
teachers and support staff
who are dedicated
to empowering all children
to achieve success.

- School Mission Statement



**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
ANNA RACINE - OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

6247 Kirkland Drive
Niagara Falls, Ont.
L2H 2A7
(905) 358-3412
Wk – (905) 354-1611, Ext. 263
Fax – (905) 354-5540
E-mail: racine@martinshep.com

**SENT BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
AND BY COURIER**

February 8, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road,
Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Attention: John Crocco, Director of Education

Dear Mr. Crocco:

RE: Request for opportunity to delegate in order to make a presentation at the Special Board Meeting regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls

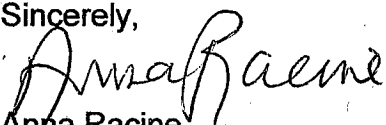
On behalf of the Catholic School Council of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School, I am requesting the opportunity to delegate at the Special Board Meeting to be held on February 17, 2009.

I will be making the presentation on behalf of the Catholic School Council, in my position as Community Representative of the Catholic School Council of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. My contact information is listed above.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the presentation notes which will speak to a Power Point document that will be presented at the same time. I also enclose a copy of the Power Point Document.

Thanking you in advance for the opportunity to delegate.

Sincerely,


Anna Racine,
Community Representative

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School Council

Our Lady of Mount Carmel School

*We create a Christ-centred
environment within which
people will grow
and learning will flourish.*

- School Mission Statement

*"T COLA"
Improvement that is
continuous
and never ending."*

- School Motto



Introduction

"I CAN", which stands for Improvement that is Continuous and Never Ending. This is the motto of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School. Our school not only has wonderful students and teachers, but its programs and the special features cannot be taken for granted or taken away.

Purpose

The purpose of our delegation is to speak on behalf of our students to ensure that if St. Thomas More School is closed and the students are moved to Our Lady of Mount Carmel that our school and our students will not suffer with this change.

Just My Size

Keeping in mind that our school does not have facilities to accommodate 4 and 5 year old children, extensive renovations would have to be made to accommodate these children. Obvious things such as washrooms, sinks and water fountains which are size appropriate would have to be installed. In addition, all the furniture, cupboards, blackboards, library and computer centers would have to accommodate the younger children.

J.K. and S.K. Wing

As the needs of J.K. and S.K. children have to be met, a wing of classrooms would have to be constructed, ensuring that these students would be separate from the rest of the school. Currently, there are 3 classrooms for J.K. and S.K. grades at St. Thomas More.

A separate entrance would be required to ensure that the children would have easier access in and out of the school. In this way, these children would not be entering and exiting with the older students. This would also assist with fire drills and emergency procedures.

A fenced in playground would be required, not only for safety purposes but also to assist with teacher supervision. Age appropriate play structures and play areas would be contained within this playground.

Transporting Primary Children

It is obvious that construction would be required in the drop off area to accommodate the extra 200 plus students; all of which will range from age 4 to 8 years of age. At present, the current arrangements would not be suitable to ensure child safety insofar as when the buses drop off, there is not enough room for 500 students to walk through a crowded parking lot to the back of the school. Staff and visitor parking areas would have to be moved from the bus area to allow for a proper walkway for the children to walk to the back of the school.

Also for parents dropping off their children off on Carlton Street, this could turn into a nightmare insofar as this street is crowded enough now with parents dropping their children off. There is very little room on the street and there are cars everywhere, which is unsafe for small children crossing the road. There would have to be a separate entranceway from a different road to accommodate this. Alternatively, the back portion of the St. Thomas More School's playground could be turned into an extra parking lot, as the current parking area of St. Thomas More Church cannot accommodate all these extra cars.

Our Beautiful French Rooms

Currently our school has 2 French classrooms and 2 French teachers. That means all children receive their French instruction in a classroom conducive to learning. When they look around the room, everything on the walls is written in French which reinforces what they are learning every day.

Our children need to continue to have this, as well as the students coming from St. Thomas More, who also currently have a separate French classroom.

"French on Wheels" is not the way for children to learn and definitely not what they have been used to at these two schools.

Music Music Everywhere

For those who have been lucky to be in our school, they have seen our awesome Music Room. The room has amphitheater seating for the students to sit and play their instruments. Again, the walls of the classroom are geared to a music classroom. The room contains a large closet area to store all of the musical instruments; it also has sound proof features which a regular classroom does not have.

If the students were to take music in their regular classrooms; this would result in moving the instruments back and forth from their storage area; and in addition there would be inadequate space to place the music stands.

Our students should not be forced to give up their music room and have to take music in their regular classroom. It is not fair to them or to the teacher.

Cyberquest

As you know, our school has a very large Cyberquest teaching area which accommodates not only our students, but all other Grade 7 and 8 classes within the Board.

This is an essential teaching space that should not be removed from our school in order to accommodate the St. Thomas More students. Our students should not have to be bused to another school for Cyberquest when it has been provided in their school all these years, not to mention the cost involved to construct this room in another school, and to turn the present room into a regular classroom.

Increase in Library Use

The current library space and computer lab are inadequate to accommodate an extra 10 classes of students from St. Thomas More School. As the library is the focal point of literacy in a school, it would have to be enlarged to include another reading area for primary children, as well as an extra computer lab with size appropriate furniture.

Extra shelving would be required for all of the primary books that the children have at St. Thomas More School., and which would then be incorporated into our library. The primary children are also read to by their librarian at St. Thomas More School, which requires a special reading area to be constructed for the children.

Larger Staff Room

The current staff room barely accommodates the teachers and staff of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The addition of approximately 15 new people certainly will require a larger staff room for everyone to fit.

Learning Strategies Room

Our school has a Learning Strategies Room for certain students that require this given their special needs. This room is used for instruction such as physiotherapy, speech and occupational therapy. It must be maintained for the children who require it.

E.R.T. Room

The children of St. Thomas More have a large E.R.T. room where they are taken for intervention classes on a regular basis.

There are various centers for the children to work at; this includes an area for meetings to be held between parents, and educations. This centre is also used for staff conferences.

The current E.R.T. room at Our Lady of Mount Carmel is very small with room for only one meeting table.

Obviously, this room will need a large expansion to accommodate the needs of the primary children, while still serving the older students of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. This room would also need to be upgraded to include a meeting area that would meet the needs of all students, staff and parents.

We Don't Want Portables

As you may know, Our Lady of Mount Carmel currently does not have portables. Our parents will strongly resist the addition of portables as a result of the closure of St. Thomas More School. The parents of both the primary and the senior students will not accept having their child in a portable, as a result of the additional students. Enough classrooms would have to be available for every child to be taught inside the walls of the school and not in a portable.

Currently, there are only 5 empty classrooms at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. This does not take into account all the specialty rooms our school has; which are not considered to be empty rooms but teaching classrooms. These are rooms that our students have had for years, which are not to be taken away due to lack of space.

Without including the J.K. and S.K. students, which we have recommended having a separate wing for, there are currently 7 other classes at St. Thomas More which translates into 7 extra rooms being required, none of which should be taken from the specialty classrooms our students currently use. Presently Our Lady of Mount Carmel has 5 empty classrooms, 2 of which are used to form double classrooms; the other three are used as a drama, storage and a teacher's resource and book room. Out of these 5 classrooms, the teacher resource and book room is an essential room which is used daily by staff and will soon be used by students.

There will only be four empty classrooms, keeping in mind that a storage area for the schools' large equipment will have to be constructed.

In the end, without the J.K. and S.K. rooms St. Thomas More's students would require 7 classrooms and Our Lady Of Mount Carmel only has 4 empty rooms, therefore three additional rooms would need to be added.

Construction

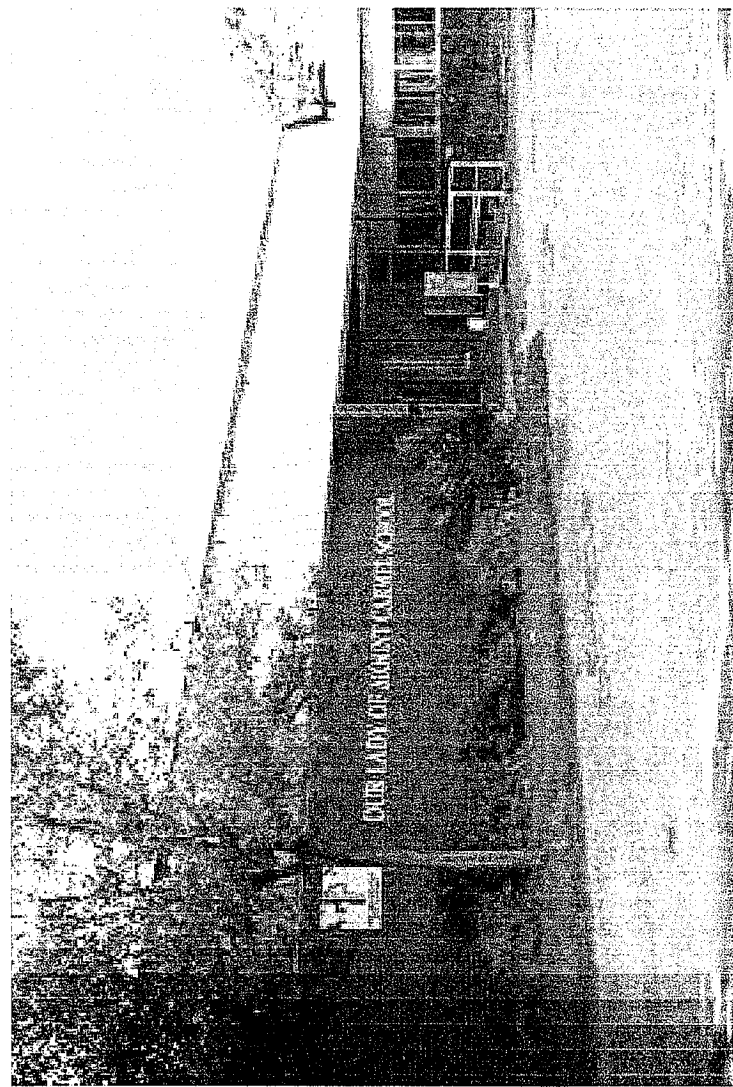
As you can see, extensive renovations and additions would have to be made at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, none of which should be attempted during the school year. Not only is this a safety issue, but it would be overly disruptive to the learning that goes on every day.

Plans would have to be made that the construction does not commence until after the school year ends and end at a minimum, a few weeks before school begins in order that the teachers can organize their classrooms.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is clear that the families of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will not allow their children to be affected negatively as a result of the addition of the primary students. Our current students deserve not to have things taken away from them, but to be granted new and better offerings with the inclusion of the students from their sister primary school.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School





I CAN

- Improvement that is continuous and never ending
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel has wonderful teachers and students
- Programs with special features



Just My Size

- There are currently no facilities to accommodate 4 or 5 year old students.
- Extensive renovations to accommodate
- Installation of washroom facilities and fountains



JK and SK Wing

- Separate wing to be constructed
- Separate entrance from the rest of the school
- Easier access in and out
- Assist with fire drills and emergency procedures
- Fenced playground required

Transporting Primary Children

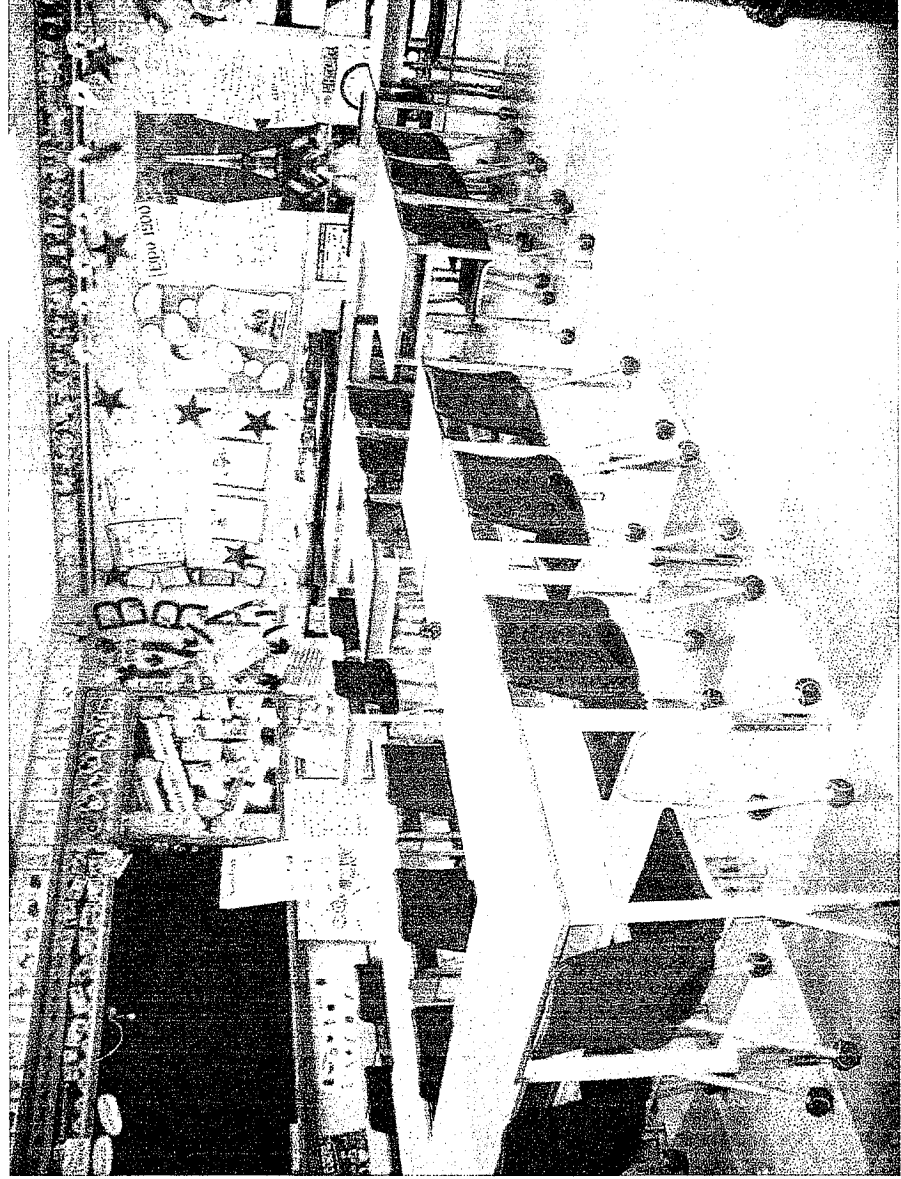
- Construction required for drop off area
- Must accommodate and extra 200 + students
- Present arrangements not suitable for child safety
- Crowded Parking Lot
- Renovations needed for staff, visitor, and bus parking



Our Beautiful French Rooms

- Currently there are 2 French Classrooms and 2 French Teachers
- All students receive French instruction in a classroom
- Set up is conducive to learning
- Neither school has French on Wheels

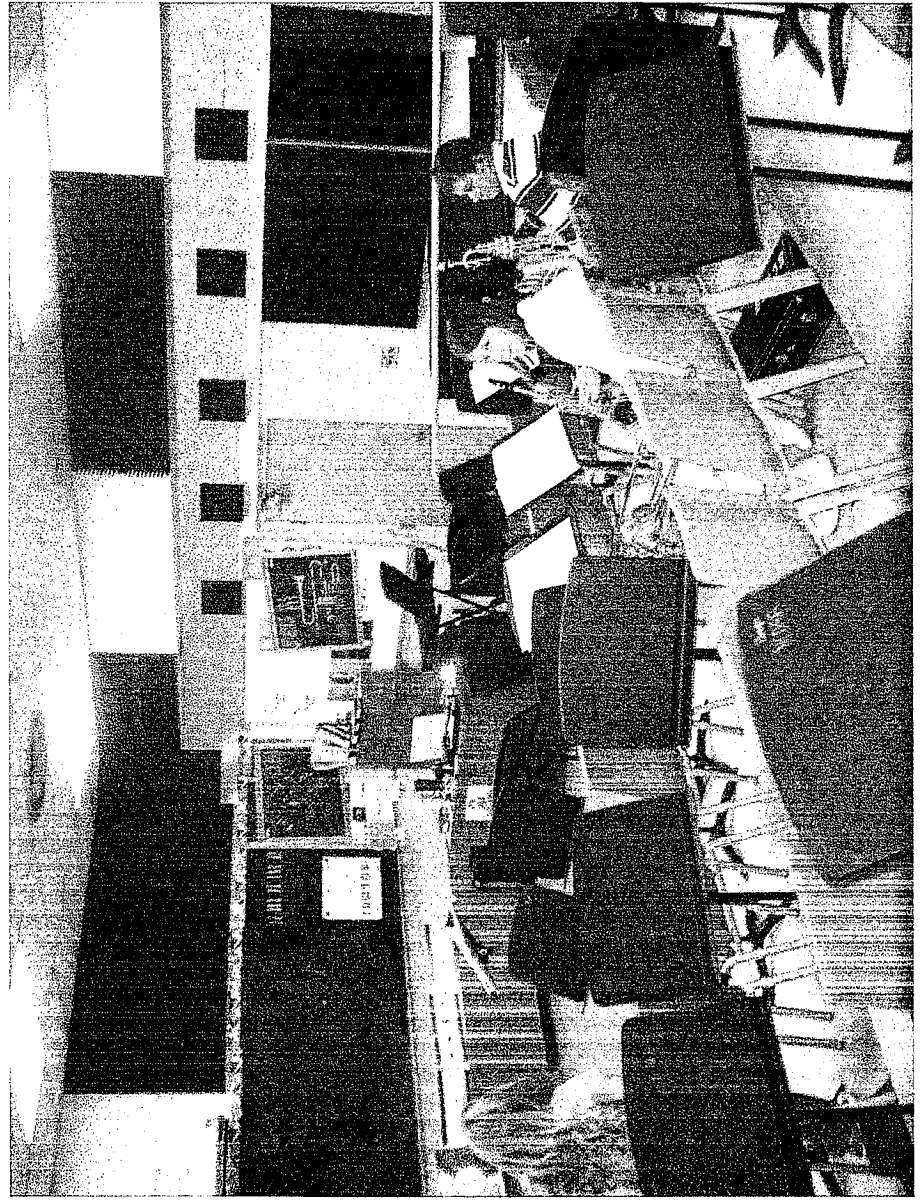
Excellent Learning Environment



Music, Music Everywhere

- Music room has amphitheater seating
- Room contains large closet area to store instruments
- Room contains sound proof features

Music Room

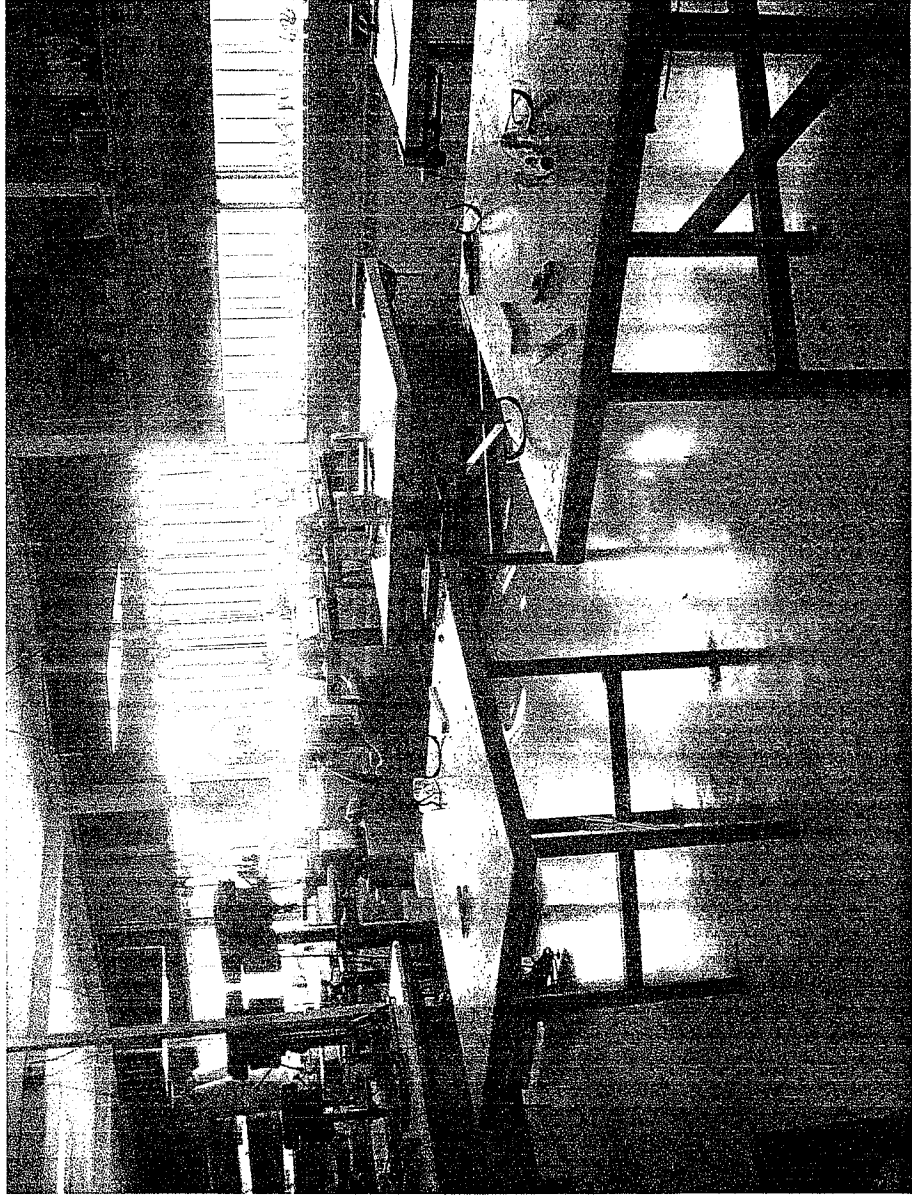




Cyberquest

- Teaching area accommodates all grade 7 & 8 students
- Buses not needed
- High cost involved to reconstruct this room in another school

Specialized Learning

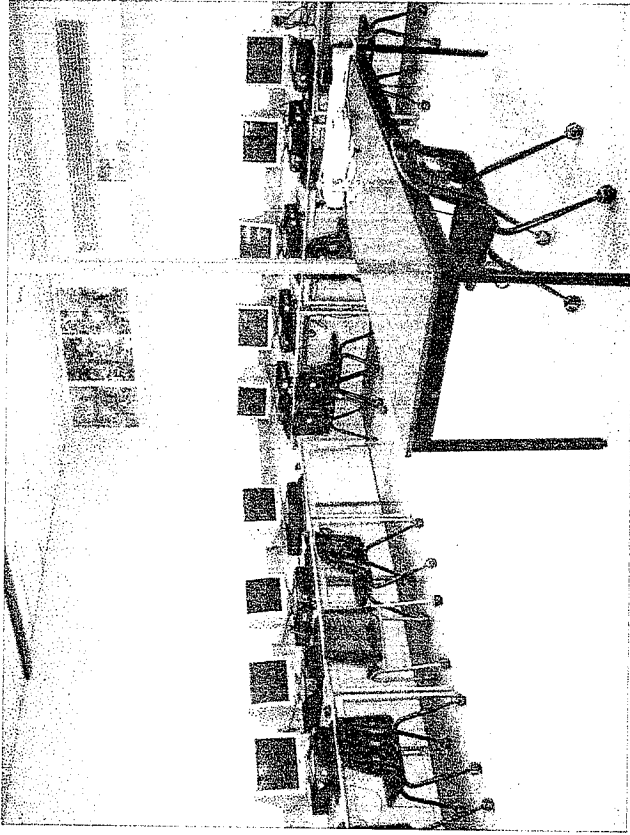
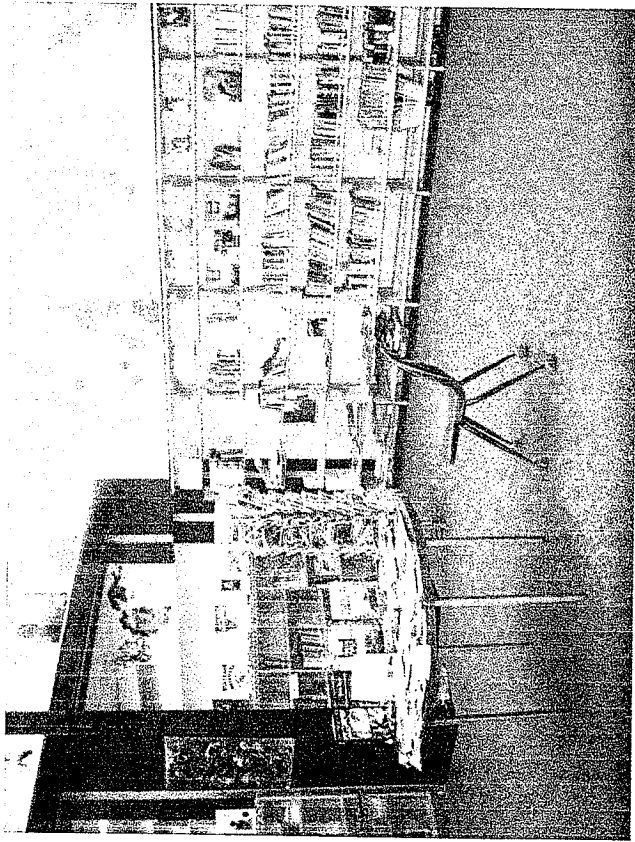




Increase in Library Use

- Inadequate accommodations for 10 classes of extra students
- Library is the focal point of literacy in a school
- Construction needed to enlarge the reading area for primary children
- Computer Lab needs to be sized with appropriate furniture

Library and Computer Lab





ERT Room

- Current Room is very small
- Holds only one meeting table
- Large expansion needed to accommodate needs of primary children
- Room needed to meet the needs of all students, staff, and parents



We Don't Want Portables

- Currently OLMC has no portables
- Currently there are only 5 empty classrooms at OLMC (excluding specialty rooms)
- 7 extra rooms needed to amalgamate the schools
- An adequate teacher resource room is essential
- Construction would be needed to avoid portables



Construction

- Extensive renovations and addition needed at OLMC
- Should not be attempted during the school year
- Safety issue for all students
- Disruptive to learning

In Conclusion

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
MELISSA HESSE - ST. MARY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Attention:

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW FOR NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY

ON FEBRUARY 17, 2009 @ 7pm at St Michael's

a) As a member of the St Mary school community who sat on the "ARC" committee in Spring 2008, I request the opportunity to speak publicly regarding the Senior Staff recommendations.

Along with myself (Melissa Hesse), Nicole Pasco and Sue Brady have participated and collaborated on such presentation.

b) i) Melissa Hesse – speaking

Nicole Pasco

Sue Brady

ii) Melissa Hesse is past chairperson of St Mary school council, a member of the ARC committee and parent of a St Mary student.

Nicole Pasco is past co-chair of St Mary school council and parent of students in elementary and secondary schools

Sue Brady is a concerned parent of children at St Mary School

iii) Melissa Hesse

Nicole Pasco

Sue Brady

5266 Ottawa Ave

4993 Rendall Cres

6103 Burdette Dr East

Niagara Falls, ON

Niagara Falls, ON

Niagara Falls, ON

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(905)371-1431

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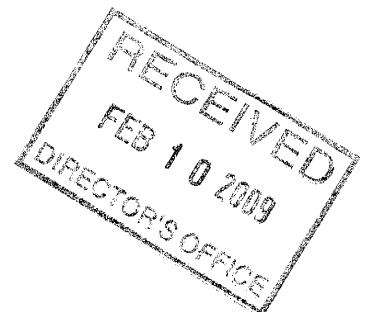
Email:

michaeldhesse@yahoo.com

npasco@cogeco.ca

sbrady2@cogeco.ca

mhesse1@cogeco.ca



The senior staff recommendation is the 2nd worst outcome for St Mary next to closing it completely. Revising the boundary would result in removing 52 St Mary students from a potential growth area (ie. Burdette-Cropp) and leaving an already saturated area with no growth potential.

The current boundary has been supported for 50 years with at least $\frac{3}{4}$ capacity. We suspect St Mary is on the ARC because of location. According to graphs supplied by school board, we are projected to have constant enrolment until 2023. Changing the boundary will result in returning to an "ARC" situation within a few years, probably before 5 years

The 52 St Mary children would be moved to a school and parish that is served by Our Lady of Scapular, that already has a total of four schools (approx 1800 students) leaving only approximately 350 for St Pat's parish.

According to appendix 'J' of the senior staff recommendations, money will be spent to accommodate students from St Mary at Notre Dame with an addition. How much will this cost? What is the extra cost of bussing these 52 children?

While "ARC" was deliberating on merits of the six schools in the ARC, Notre Dame was added in the last few meetings – not from the start. Was Notre Dame not on the ARC because it had been visited during the prior St Vincent DePaul boundary review? The NCDSB web site is confusing and not clear and transparent to users of the site. Maps of the suggested boundaries are not given street names or timeline. Most people are unaware of the situation. Wording from Senior Staff Report Recommendations is different than ARC Recommendations – this leads to confusion of 2009/2010 or 2010/2011 school year.

Clarify – is the closure of St Joe's and the boundary change effective September 2009? Where is the study that shows students from St Joe's will even go to St Mary? St Patrick and Father Hennepin have room for all of St Joe's students, leaving our school to be monitored for the next two years. Since a city-wide boundary review is going to be done by 2011, why can't St Mary's boundary be left alone. St Joe's population could be split between St Pat's and Father Hennepin so that only two schools are used – which will be better for the children.

What happens to the out of bounds kids that have been in our school? Are they in or out?

We would like a grandfather clause for children that wish to stay at St Mary, realizing that bussing isn't a transportation option. New admissions would have to adhere to policy.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Warren Woods is still on the table for the new subdivision. Has property been purchased by the school board or serviced by a developer.

St Joe's has received money in the form of grants from the Ontario government – What happens to that money?

When does Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee meet? The whole city should have been included. Has there not been a City Wide Review before?

Part of St Joe's recommended boundary is now in St Paul's secondary school boundary. For children living in Coronation Park Area, will they be forced to leave St Mike's?

The City of Niagara Falls has requested the Region expand the urban boundary for the North West area, making St Vincent DePaul within that boundary of an already crowded school.

Is the trend toward BIG BOX schools? We live in an area where this isn't necessary, due to population numbers

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
SHAWN GRATTON - FATHER HENNEPIN CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1



Dear Director of Education, Mr. John Crocco:

As Chair of the Father Hennepin Catholic School Delegation, I request the opportunity to appear as a delegation before yourself and the Trustees on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at Saint Michael's Catholic High School. Please find additional information attached if you wish to contact me prior to the meeting.

Thank you in advance,



Shawn Gratton

Name of organization: Father Hennepin Catholic School Delegation

Name and Authority Position: Shawn Gratton- Chair

**Mailing Address: 5821 Sunnylea Cresent
Niagara Falls, Ontario
L2G 2S1**

Day Time Phone Number: 905-562-1324 or 1-866-778-6639 ext. 33

After Business Hours: 905-353-9047

Fax Number: 905-562-7777

E-Mail Address: sgratton@stoneyrIDGE.com or stgratton@yahoo.com

Dear Director of Education, Mr. Crocco, Superintendents of Education, Trustees and members of audience.

My name is Shawn Gratton. I am a parent of two daughters currently attending Father Hennepin Catholic School and I represent the Delegation from Father Hennepin. As the elected Chair of this delegation I come before this panel to represent the voice of the children and their parents, guardians, family and friends regarding the matter before you tonight. Our purpose tonight is three fold: to render our input on the Senior Staff recommendation, to strengthen and secure the long term viability of our school to the Niagara Catholic District School Board and to encourage its consideration in the future deliberations.

As one of the six schools selected in the Accommodation Review Committee process, we wish to thank all the members of the committee involved in the process as their recommendation report to the Director of Education was a difficult one to agree upon. It is import to stress throughout this process, it was extremely important to minimize the over all impact it would have on the students, our children. We also understand the fiscal challenges the school board must face operating these schools as enrolment decreases over time within the province of Ontario. It is fortunate for everyone in attendance, we live in a city with economic growth due to its major source of employment; tourist industry.

Future Development

Father Hennepin's school motto is "**A School With a Vision...Seeing Above and Beyond**". The school lies within the heart of the economic area of Niagara Falls; the Fallsview Tourist Area. The city of Niagara Falls continues to see this area as a major source of job creation. The City of Niagara Falls has approved projects like the building of hotels, the Convention Centre, attractions and encouraging investment and re development in areas such as Downtown and Drummondville; all within a few kilometres of our school. A need for housing and schooling comes with job creation. It is extremely difficult to predict the impact of such job creation on the needs of our school. Could it increase our enrolment? **Definitely**. Could the school handle it? **Absolutely**. The proximity of these endeavours and the location of our school allows us flexibility in accommodating the possible influx of students by either placing portables on site or building an addition(s). Why? Of the six schools involved in the original ARC, we have the greatest amount of land. Father Hennepin currently sits on 3.17 hectares of land. At the time of the ARC, Father Hennipen had 3 vacant classrooms. As of January 2009, the school introduced the Early Years program occupying one of these classrooms. Under the current Senior Staff recommendation, those students coming from St. Joseph, in addition to our current enrolment, would occupy the remaining two classrooms.

Contribution to the School and the Community

It is important to recognize some achievements and successes Father Hennepin has accomplished with a dedicated student body, faculty and parental involvement (like our CSC members). We have taken the Eco School philosophy and ran with it. We raised funds, applied for and received grants from companies like Toyota and TD to increase the number of trees on property to its current number of 21, students have grown, from seeds, plants for our flower beds. We have obtained a Silver rating. We wish to continue this process by achieving our next goal which is a community Vegetable Garden and a Gold rating.

Our fundraising efforts for community needs are amazing. Two consecutive years of \$4000.00 plus to Holy Childhood Walkathon and \$2000.00 plus to Project Share was donated by our students and school. Many more listed in the package provided to the Committee.

We have forged great partnerships with many of the local businesses and charitable organizations within the school community. Without their support, many of our schools goals and endeavours would not have been realized. We wish to continue this wonderful relationship in the future.

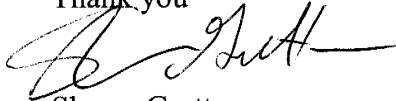
Recommendations by the Accommodation Review Committee and Senior Staff

Our delegation has reviewed both recommendations brought forward to the Director of Education and the Board of Trustees. It is difficult to predict the pace in which Warren Woods and Thundering Waters will develop. The current time frame for these developments maybe a few years away as the economic slowdown may have an effect. With new projects like the Convention Centre likely to commence within this year, interest in our area will sure be realized. Our proximity of less than 1 kilometre will attract potential workers to housing within our school's area. We felt the recommendation made by the Accommodation Review Committee would be drastic and sudden and would have created, in some cases, 3 school changes in a short period of time for some students. It was refreshing to see a different approach from Senior Staff in regards to the matter. Under this recommendation, the impact is minimized and it allows for reviews as situations change within the City of Niagara Falls. In Father Hennepin's case, it would increase our enrolment, make use of our surplus space, and ensure our viability in the short and long term. In return, it strengthens our involvement in our community and with our Church, Our Lady of Peace. It also supports our economic partners and maintains our return in investments like our homes and businesses.

We would like to see, when the time comes, an entire review of the boundaries for all of Niagara Falls' Catholic Schools. As some schools have surplus space others are growing beyond their capacity. Building new schools in areas of need may be more beneficial than building in areas that may or may not develop.

We, the Father Hennepin Delegation, endorse the Senior Staff recommendation and we will welcome, with open arms, those students and parents from St. Joseph Catholic School to our proud and wonderful school community.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Gratton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shawn Gratton

The following sheets outline our presentations during the 4th A.R.C. public meeting. It highlights many of the strengths of Father Hennepin Catholic School. The original petition, mentioned at the end of this package, was handed in to the A.R.C. at the final public meeting. It is to be noted, the signatures on the petition was collected by the parents and local businesses. The 544 signatures reflect the effect of a 5 day campaign prior to the final public meeting. We believe we could have collected far more if time permitted.

Good Evening ARC Committee and all dedicated persons in attendance. Niagara is fortunate to have several established vibrant schools within its community. Everyone values his or her school. We appreciate the opportunity to briefly share with you what FATHER HENNEPIN School has to offer.

FATHER HENNEPIN'S Motto is: A school with a vision... seeing above and beyond.

Celebrated 50th anniversary this past year

The name Father Hennepin represents history in Niagara Falls, it was Father Hennepin who brought the Wonder of "Niagara Falls" to the world's attention.

Most recently: Awarded-Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds Grant
- TD Friends of the Environment Grant
- Designation of ECO School

Parents and students Planted 21 trees in our schoolyard
Students grow own seeds and plant in our schools gardens
Parent volunteers up keep the gardens year round

Featured – on Toyota's website and in their Nation Wide Greening Campaign
After this years fall planting

Goal in progress – Community Vegetable Garden

Recognized for: Gifts of giving- contributions

At FH we-Look past the needs of our School and raise funds for our community and the needs of our fellow Christians around the world....

Christmas Charity Raffle – over \$2000.00 each year to Project Share
Holy Childhood Walkathon \$4000.00 this year

Wells of Hope

Backpacks of Hope

Contribute to Tsunami – Natural Disasters in Myanmar & China

Staff Dress down days- different causes each term-Little People of Ontario-

Tim Horton's Foundation-Cancer Society

Heart and Stroke- Jump Rope for Heart

Niagara Children's Peninsula Center

Extra School Programs - Breakfast club started this year

- P 3
- Junior and Intermediate sports programs
- Chess Club and Scrabble group
- Summer Reading Program

Unique To Our School Magical Santa Shop...where all gifts are a loonie

- Created and published our own cook book
- Used Book Fair- helps the environment \$ buy new - books for library.
- Guest Speaker presentations

In the process of being approved for before and after school day care.

Property Value: Street recently repaved

Brand new parking lot

Constructed new Turn around

Our school has 9.49 acres, which gives the school plenty of room for expansion to accommodate higher enrollment.

Recreational Activities – Our soccer field is used and maintained by the City of Niagara Falls, and the Travel Soccer Clubs

-Several organizations and groups use our School gymnasium after hours and on weekends

Dedicated and Strong Partnerships:

Project Share- students volunteer

Cavendish Manor Visits

Heart Niagara Surveys

Swimming at YMCA

PALS

Allergy Aware

Strength of the TRIAD with in Father Hennepin

Strong Values with church- a FH Parent established children's literature several years ago at Our Lady of Peace Parish and it is still active today

There is strong communication among our families, students and staff. FH, in conjunction with Our lady of Peace church provides students with a strong Catholic Faith and allows a new generation to continue practicing their Catholic faith at Our Lady of Peace Parish.

Looking towards the Future:

The South end in close proximity to the school still has areas to be developed at the present, many single family homes, apartments, and condos are under construction right now.

-Opportunity for increasing our enrollment to capacity.

In Conclusion-

At Father Hennepin

Everyone feels like family there is a feeling of warmth, friendship and just belonging. Staff has stayed because they love being there and what it has to offer. Along with the spirit of the families, some students leave and end up coming back because they feel comfortable at our school.

We are a family at Father Hennepin, and in todays busy world we need the comfort of knowing our children are being taught to love Christ and follow in his footsteps.

Please take this opportunity to allow Father Hennepin to remain open increasing our enrollment to its capacity. We welcome opportunities of construction and expansion.

Thanks to our small size, Father Hennepin offers a very safe environment for our students.

Students, teachers, and parents may all be better served when a school is small enough to allow for effective communication amongst teachers, students and the school community. In small schools, meaningful relationships are nurtured.

Our small school offers an environment in which students are more visible. When students are better known, teachers can more easily identify individual talents and the unique needs of each student, offering a more personalized educational experience.

At Father Hennepin our staff size allows more opportunity for teachers to know each other well, more easily share information about their students, and collaborate to solve problems, and generally support one another.

Our School Mission Statement is

“We create a Christ-Centered environment within which children will grow and learning will flourish.

As you can see at **Father Hennepin** we follow our School Mission Statement in everything we do.

Thank you

A lot of what Father Hennepin is about and what we do in the school and give to the community cannot be reflected in a rubric. We scored low on parent involvement. I would like to know how you came up with this number because the parents who volunteer in the school know all of the children and all of the children know the parents by name. The parents who do not volunteer in the school volunteer behind the scenes. And why do we do this, because we **LOVE OUR SCHOOL.**

We teach our children by example, by fighting for what we believe in and how important it is to help others. By keeping Father Hennepin open we will continue to teach them a sense of community.

Just over the past few days we have collected over 544 signatures on a petition to **SAVE FATHER HENNEPIN.** This does not include our 213 students. The community support to keep our school open is overwhelming.

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 18, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 18, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School in Niagara Falls.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Fera.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Crole from attending the Special Board Meeting of February 17, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole		✓
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire		✓
Christina Volpini		✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. **Overview of Special Board Meeting Procedures**

Chairperson Burtnik welcomed all those in attendance, and gave an overview of the Special Board Meeting Procedures. It was reiterated that this Meeting is being held in order to provide an opportunity for public input and for the Board to listen and ask questions of clarification regarding pupil accommodation review.

Chairperson Burtnik affirmed that the recommendations resulting from the Special Board Meetings and subsequent meetings of Senior Staff will be presented in a Senior Staff Follow-Up report at the March 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The audience was advised of the approved Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input and the Delegation Application Process, which required written applications requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2009.

Trustees received copies of the written submissions on February 10, 2009 allowing them the opportunity to thoroughly review the submissions prior to the presentations.

B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **Pupil Accommodation Review Highlights and Recommendation**

John Crocco, Director of Education, presented the Pupil Accommodation Review highlights and recommendations currently being proposed as a result of the Accommodation Review Committee recommendations and the subsequent Senior Staff review.

Director Crocco reviewed the process followed along with the approved schedule of events, and stated that all presentations and correspondence are posted on the Board's Website under the Pupil Accommodations Review Tab.

C. DELEGATIONS

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY

1. St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School

Anna Racine, Co-Chair of the St. Thomas More Catholic School Council, made a presentation on behalf of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

2. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Anna Racine, Community Representative, made a presentation on behalf of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

3. St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls

Melissa Hesse, Community Representative, made a presentation on behalf of St. Mary Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

Chairperson Burtnik asked Director Crocco to clarify the following issues and questions raised within Ms. Hesse's presentation which resulted in the following responses:

Warren Woods is still on the table for the new subdivision. Has property been purchased by the School Board or serviced by a developer?

- The School Board has not purchased property in the Warren Woods Subdivision, and it currently is being serviced by a developer.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls received money in the form of grants from the Ontario Government. What happens to that money if St. Joseph closes?

- The approximately \$250,000 in Ministry of Education grants received by St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls purchased resources for students, books, professional development for staff etc. If St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School closes the resources would be shared amongst other schools.

When does the Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review meet? The whole city should have been included. Has there not been a city wide review before?

- The Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee held its last major review in the 2003-2004 school year and reviewed boundaries for 11 elementary schools. An Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee could be formed as a result of the Pupil Accommodation Review recommendations to begin in September 2009.

Part of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School's recommend boundary is now within the Saint Paul Catholic Secondary School boundary. For children living in Coronation Park Area, will they be forced to leave Saint Michael Catholic High School?

- The potential change in boundaries may result in a shift within population of the schools and a decision will be made based on complete information at the time.

The City of Niagara Falls has requested that Region expand the urban boundary for the north west area, making St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School within that boundary of an already crowded school. Is the trend toward Big Box Schools? We live in an area where this isn't necessary, due to population numbers.

- We have been informed that the Region denied the City's request. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has most recently approved two new smaller elementary schools in Grimsby. St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary Schools of approximately 230 and 350 students rather than one school of 500 plus students.

4. Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

Shawn Gratton, Chair of the Father Hennepin Catholic School Council, made a presentation on behalf of Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS& OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls

Director Crocco presented a request to appear as a delegation to the Special Board Meeting of Tuesday, January 17, 2009, by Beverley Riemersma and Wendy Moulton of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls. He explained that the request was not submitted within the timeline stated in the Delegation Application Process, but that the correspondence is provided for all Trustees and will be considered in the Senior Staff Follow-Up report.

E. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

1. Special Board Meeting - Wednesday, February 18, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Denis Morris Catholic High School
2. Special Board Meeting - Monday, February 23, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Denis Morris Catholic High School

F. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

G. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the February 17, 2009 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

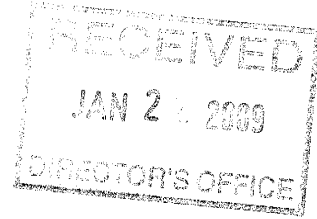
Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 17, 2009.

Approved on the 24th day of February 2009.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
TOM URLOCKER - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



January 20, 2009

Mr. Crocco

I am applying, *as an individual*, to appear and to make a presentation regarding the future of St. Nicholas School at the special board meeting being held February 18th at Denis Morris Catholic High School.

Please inform me if my request has been granted.

Thank you.
Tom Urlocker

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St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 2G9

905 684 1983

e mail urlockerannette@hotmail.com

I am a life long resident of St. Catharines and a firm believer in the importance of Catholic Education.

I have resided within the boundaries of St. Nicholas School for my entire life. My formal education began in St. Nicholas and my five children attended St. Nicholas.

I even had the privilege of being principal of this wonderful school.

When I started my teaching career with the St. Catharines Catholic School Board at Christ the King School on Glenridge Ave., there were 6 more Catholic schools in full operation with the 8th one being built. (St. Mary's, St. Nicholas, St. Catherine, St. John, St. Denis, St. Joseph,) Basically these schools were between the QE highway and the train tracks on Glenridge. Ave.

Today Christ the King is an orthodox church, St. Mary's has been torn down to make way for a housing development. St. John's and St. Thomas house adult education, St. Catherine's is a parking lot, and St. Joseph's closed. St. Denis still exists but St. Nicholas is the only Catholic School in the downtown. This beacon of Catholic Education has been shining brightly for over 150 years.

We would not be here tonight if downtown St. Catharines had not been sliding into a coma for the past 30 years. Unfortunately the city councils of the past saw no need to invest in their downtown and as a result, people moved out. Naturally their children went with them and the businesses followed.

However, in 2008 it began to show signs of waking up. The prognosis is that downtown will fully waken and become a very vibrant destination over the next few years.

Projects are under way which will provide housing in the core of the city. Presently, older commercial buildings are being converted to residences as seen on King St. in the former handball facility. New construction of 40-45 townhouses is taking place on the parking lot of the former Hotel Dieu Hospital. When the new hospital is complete the former Hotel Dieu site will

be transformed into hundreds of residential units. People living in an area bring life, vitality and children with them. New businesses have already sprung up in anticipation of this renewal.

Over the past few years we have seen downtown transforming into an Arts Centre with several theatre groups as well as a number of visual arts establishments. Some of these venues not only display art but provide studio space for artists.

Brock University is moving its School of Fine and Performing Arts to downtown. There are over 500 students in that program and it is growing. In conjunction with the school, a Performing Arts center will be constructed adjacent to the school. It will host music, dance, film, photography, dramatic displays and performances. It will also double as a convention center.

It was reported in; the St. Catharines Standard on Dec. 20, 2008 that “Catholic School Board Staff recommended closing the downtown’s only faith based school if it doesn’t gain 100 more students by 2011

THAT STATEMENT SCARED ME! If I was a parent of school age children I would be looking now for another school. Kids and parents have enough stresses in their lives without the added threat of their school closing.

I would therefore request that the board state loudly and clearly that St. Nicholas School **will Not** close in 2011 but will be reviewed again in 5 years. This would provide immediate security for the current parents and students as well as giving the staff time to work on my next suggestions.

I would also ask the board to direct the staff to find ways to keep Catholic Education alive in downtown St. Catharines and I will now speak to this possibility.

As a result of working together, I learned that when Mr. Crocco was given a task to do, he did it with enthusiasm, with focus, with energy and, if it was meant to be, with success. If given the challenge, and, if it is meant to be, Mr. Crocco will find a way to keep St. Nicholas School open,

To that end, I also have a couple of suggestions.

A) The board has been running a pilot program in Intensive French. Perhaps a program in Intensive French could be started in St. Catharines and housed at St. Nicholas. Proximity to Immaculate Conception could be a bonus.

B) Make St. Nicholas a centre for Special Interest Programs in the Arts. Programs could be developed for students in grades 6,7 & 8 to have a more in depth exposure to the arts than they can receive in the regular school setting.

For example: Bring to St. Nicholas the students from the various schools for a half day a week for a semester. Creative, energetic and talented teachers will provide innovative programs that will enrich the current arts curriculum.

The McGuinty government says, and I quote, “Arts education is critical to our kid’s intellectual, physical and emotional growth. By studying dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts, students learn to think more creatively and critically, and further develop the ability to work with others.”

C) Enter into a partnership or co-operative arrangement with Brock’s School of Fine and Performing Arts, the Niagara Artists Centre (NAC) and other theatre groups such as the Carousel Players which would be extremely enriching and rewarding experiences for our students

D) The downtown location of St. Nicholas with its proximity to the Cathedral, library, police station, city hall, market, etc. provides many alternate learning opportunities.

I am asking the board to seriously consider my proposal which will result in more of our students selecting art courses in our high schools. This in turn will result in more of our high school students selecting arts at Brock and all of this will provide employment opportunities that will allow our youth to stay in the area.

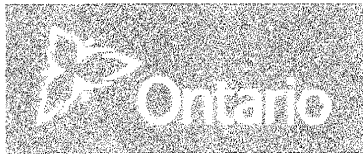
To briefly summarize, I have two requests.

Do not close St. Nicholas in 2011,

Direct the staff to find a creative viable solution to this problem.

This would confirm that the Catholic School board of Niagara has the courage and creative energy to be innovative Catholic leaders who can look to the future needs of their community.

Thank you



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Ministry of Education

McGuinty Government Boosts Arts Education

Ontario Students Will Benefit From Investments In New Resources Including Musical Instruments And Art Supplies

TORONTO, Jan. 18 /CNW/ - Students in Grades 1 through 12 will benefit from new arts education resources and professional development for teachers, thanks to nearly \$5 million in provincial funding, Education Minister Kathleen Wynne announced today.

"Arts education is critical to our kids' intellectual, physical and emotional growth," said Wynne. "By studying dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts, students learn to think more creatively and critically, and further develop the ability to work with others."

Public school boards across Ontario will receive more than \$4 million to buy musical instruments, art supplies and other resources to support dance, drama, music and media arts in elementary and high schools. In addition, arts education associations and community organizations will share almost \$800,000 to develop resources and host artists, performances and workshops in schools.

The outcomes of arts education - creativity, imagination, innovation and originality - are among the most important resources for economic prosperity in the 21st century. Ontario's entertainment and creative industries contribute nearly \$9.9 billion to the provincial economy and generate approximately 185,000 jobs. Over the next two decades, job growth in this sector is expected to surpass most of Ontario's other thriving employment sectors.

The investment is part of the McGuinty government's commitment to improving Ontario's public education system. Students are already benefitting from government initiatives intended to help more students succeed, including:

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- Providing a more well-rounded education, with funding to hire 1,600 elementary specialist teachers in areas such as music, the arts, as well as phys-ed
- Providing every school in the province with more textbooks, learning resources and library books with funding of \$535 million
- Funding to hire 3,600 teachers to reduce the number of students in JK to Grade 3 classes to a maximum of 20 students in 90 per cent of classes
- Transforming the Ontario high school experience with six innovative programs to keep kids learning until age 18, including Grade 8-9 transition teams, expanded co-op education and specialist high skills majors that allow students to focus on the career path that matches their unique skills and interests
- Introducing character building initiatives in schools to inspire students to become caring and contributing citizens.

"Reaching every student and helping them achieve their full potential

means providing them with a well-rounded education," said Wynne. "Ontario has a terrific arts education curriculum and we want to support schools in delivering that program."

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www.edu.gov.on.ca
www.ontario.ca/progress

Backgrounder

TEACHING THE ARTS IN ONTARIO

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The McGuinty government has invested nearly \$30 million in arts education across the province, including almost \$5 million announced today for new resources.

Arts education contributes to student success across the curriculum, supports higher academic achievement, and improves student motivation and attendance. It enhances student engagement, fosters tolerance and respect for diversity, and builds self-confidence. Arts education has been shown to be a particular benefit to at-risk youth and hard to reach learners.

At the secondary school level, students must earn one arts credit and may add a second one toward their compulsory credit requirements.

In addition, through the Specialist High Skills Major announced in December, students will now be able to complete a minimum bundle of courses in specific high skills areas, such as the arts.

The government has provided funding for school boards to hire an additional 1,300 teachers to support high school students, as well as funding to hire 1,600 elementary specialist teachers in areas such as music, the arts, as well as phys-ed.

Students at the elementary level receive a strong foundation in music, visual arts, drama and dance to ensure they acquire essential knowledge and skills. Teachers are also encouraged to integrate arts education with other subjects in the curriculum such as math, reading and social sciences.

The outcomes of arts education - creativity, imagination, innovation, and originality - are among the most important resources for economic prosperity in the 21st century.

\$5 Million Investment In Arts Curriculum Resources And Training

To support the Grade 1-12 arts curriculum, public school boards across Ontario will receive more than \$4 million to buy musical instruments and other supplies and resources, and provide professional development opportunities for teachers.

As well, 11 arts education organizations will share \$775,000 to develop resources and host artists, performances and workshops in schools. They are:

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- Council of Drama and Dance in Education
- Ontario Music Educators' Association
- Ontario Society of Education Through Art
- Association francophone pour l'éducation artistique en Ontario
- Arts Smarts Ontario
- Mariposa in the Schools
- Prologue for the Performing Arts
- MASC (Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities)

- Théâtre Action
- Echo d'un peuple
- Réseau Ontario

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For further information: Michelle Despault, Minister's Office, (416) 212-3747; Patricia MacNeil, Communications Branch, (416) 325-2676; Public Inquiries: (416) 325-2929 or 1-800-387-5514, TTY: 1-800-263-2892

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PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
ALANNA HOWELL, LESLIE LANDOLT, LEE PAGE, CATHY SONIER,
YVONNE WOWK - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Good evening, Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasure, Mrs. Cathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic; Parents, Principals and Guests.

My name is Cathy Sonier and I am proud to be a parent at St. Nicholas School.

As a child, I was very lucky to attend the same school growing up. My husband's family had to move around for work and he was always changing schools, sometimes twice a year. When Paul and I talked about our experiences, it was extremely clear what we wanted and what we felt was important for Bazil and Dexter. We made a very deliberate decision to stay where we live so that our boys could feel the same sense of security that I experienced.

Now hearing what Senior Staff believes is a good solution, makes me resent this Catholic Board of Education very much. I resent the fact that you could take such an important decision away from us as parents.

Clearly there is no regard at all for our children and their feelings. How can you feel right about closing down the school they know and love, separate them from the friends and teachers they know and love, and just plop them wherever.

For those of you who think that closing St. Nicholas school down is the right decision, I'd be willing to bet that you have never had a conversation with any of our children in the school to find out what they would like to see happen with their lives.

Cathy Sonier
120 Louisa St.
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L2R 2K4
905-682-3402
905-246-1728
psonier@cogeco.ca



Leslie Landolt
Presentation to save St. Nicholas School

Good evening Mr. Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic, Parents, Prinipals and Guests, Hello my name is Leslie Landolt and I am a member of the St. Nicholas Parent Council. Presently, I have two children in attendance at St. Nicks, in grade three and five respectively. I had the duty as past chair of our council to participate as a member on the Accommodation Review Committee. The process required dedication, care and concern from all members, not just for individual schools but for the benefit of Catholic education in Niagara. Often the process was full of emotion, yet due to the structure outlined by the Ministry of Education we were forced to clearly look at the health of our system as a whole. On a personal note, I came into the review thinking about cost, numbers and logical steps that needed to be taken in order for a bottom line to be maintained. By the end of the entire process I began to view the outcome in a totally different way.

I began to ponder what being a Catholic was.

I pondered what living in a community was all about.

I pondered the entire concept of Christian Ministry, fellowship within a community of Catholic families and how that influences the parents and children who are unfamiliar with Catholicism.

In the transient life that makes up any downtown, the tiny heartbeat of all that Catholic education strives for is evident in St. Nicholas School. Yes, it is a tiny speck of a school in the center of a downtown struggling to revitalize itself. Let us all remember that it is the only school that serves the residence of downtown. We all know that our School Board's mandate does not include downtown revitalization, yet I hope that it does include values of Christian ministry to the most vulnerable among us. By and large St. Nicholas is made up of inner city kids whose stability depends upon the safe haven of a historical community that for 150 plus years has always served them.

As past Chair of our council, I had the extreme pleasure of attending our Catholic Conferences put on by our board. They are both wonderful and

inspiring. They clearly affirm the devotion of this board to promote the concept of Triad: School, Church and Home.

The Triad is both visible and spiritual. I am reminded of it every time my children walk home from school and attend Mass at the Cathedral on Sundays. As a parent, the concept of "Triad" was brought to life because of the core values explained to me through the Niagara Catholic District School Board. In the case of St. Nicholas, where stability within a community is needed, why is the Board ready to dismantle the connection between the Cathedral, School and Home? Yes, you can, as you have, make the recommendation to send our St. Nicholas children to many different schools and be content with a Cathedral that no longer has the life blood of children. But how does this truly fit with the Board's proclaimed concept of "TRIAD"? I will leave this question for everyone here to ponder: Is it our responsibility to care for the communities that we serve no matter how transient or vulnerable? Is it our business to treat our school communities that are vulnerable and weak as centers of Catholic Ministry? Personally, I feel that this is what our faith calls us to do.

Please consider this fundamental and spirit filled reason to keep a 152 year old school community open.

Thank you for hearing my message and may God bless this whole decision making process.

Yours, in Catholic Education,
Leslie Landolt

7 Gerrard Street,
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 5S8

(905) 684-9862 home
(905) 651-4309

Good Evening:

Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer

Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair

Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair

Trustees of Niagara Catholic District School Board

Parents, Principals, and Guests:

My name is Yvonne Wowk and I am a parent at St. Nicholas Catholic School. Tonight I would like to make a few comments and suggestions and to ask some important questions concerning the possible closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary.

First, our student enrolment has gone from 130 students up to 145 students since the Accommodation Review Committee survey was done in 2007. According to the Senior Staff Recommendations from Dec. 2, 2008, St. Nicholas School could stay open if a minimum of 230 students are registered by Sept. 2011. I received information from our School Superintendent stating that there are 87 students who are within our school boundary, who could be going to St. Nicholas, but are allowed to go to other schools for various reasons. 87 students!!! That is a very high number of out of boundary students for a school that is struggling to remain open. Almost half of our student population!! Why are so many students allowed to leave? If you do the math, 145 students plus 87 students equals 232. My question is: why the number 230, when there are other schools allowed to remain open with lower enrolment? I feel that our school is being targeted. A comment made during an Accommodation Review Working Committee Meeting re-affirms my thoughts on this. It was suggested to take a brick from St. Nicholas and to place it in the library of St. Denis Catholic Elementary School as a remembrance of the school. This gives me the impression that the decision about our school has already been made before the community input has been presented.

According to Senior Staff Recommendations once again, it is stated that if the school is closed, the St. Nicholas students would be relocated to either Mother Theresa, which has by the way, minus 26 student spaces available, or to St. Anthony's, which has minus 9 student spaces available, or to St. Christopher's, which has minus 24 student spaces available or to St. Denis which has only 64 available student spaces but with a proposed renewal need cost of \$863,608.00. Right now there is a proposal from the school board to build a minimum of 4 additional classrooms to St. Anthony's with

the project cost to be announced. Why spend the money on these additions and upgrades when we already have a school right here to accommodate not just some, but all of our students? How much money will the school board actually save by closing the school? If each student generates approximately, \$8,000.00 the real question is: what is the potential loss of revenue if all of the current students at St. Nicholas opted to attend Memorial Public School or Alexander Public School, two public schools within walking distance of St. Nicholas?

This question was to put to me personally: "If you can get your numbers up to 230 students, not including the out of boundary students, then we can see about getting funding for a new downtown elementary school." Why is it up to the parents to increase enrolment? We already have our jobs, family responsibilities, kids in sports, volunteering on school councils and the many other school activities we provide for our students. This is your job, your responsibility. What has Senior Staff done to meet their recommendation that there WILL be 230 students registered at St. Nicholas by 2011 and that we WILL receive funding for a new school? The school board has the resources, the tools and options to make St. Nicholas more attractive and viable. Why doesn't the board:

1. restrict the out of boundary attendance
2. change the attendance area boundaries by redistributing student enrolment across the city to eliminate the need for additions.
3. establish a day care centre at St. Nicholas to accommodate the families who need child care after school. This would eliminate the need to go to an alternate school because day care is offered there.
4. regain and return ownership of St. Nicholas school property back to the English Catholic School Board, ie. Niagara Catholic, or to obtain permission from the French Catholic School Board to do renovations or additions as needed to improve St. Nicholas if/when funding becomes available.

For those present this evening, St. Nicholas and Immaculate Conception School's buildings and sites were both lost to the Catholic French Board in the 1998 amalgamation of the District School Boards.

All of these options will benefit our school and would avoid the travesty of closing the oldest catholic school in the Niagara Region and the only english speaking catholic elementary school that serves the downtown community of St. Catharines.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Wowk
Chair, St. Nicholas Catholic School Council

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lpage62@sympatico.ca

February 4, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1

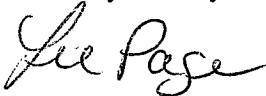
Good evening Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Parents, Principals and Guests.

My name is Mrs. Lee Page and as a long time supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School I would like to address the Board on behalf of the 551 concerned citizens who signed a petition when the possibility of closing St. Nicholas arose.

As a direct result of the Provincial Government's Places to Grow Act of 2005, St. Catharines has seen an increase in residential construction in the downtown area. These developments include the building of 40 units at Welland Ave. and Ontario Sts., 197 units at 583 Welland Ave. and 228 units that will house as many as 500 people on Herrick Ave.

These developments and the influx of families in the area along with the building of a performing arts centre will have a dramatic effect on the downtown core. We believe strongly that a Catholic Elementary School is essential to this overall growth and respectfully ask that a decision to close St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School be deferred until 2012 when further population statistics will be available and the very real possibility that 230 students could continue the tradition that is St. Nicholas.

Thank you for your consideration,



Lee Page

Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

As a parent/guardian and St. Nicholas School Supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am opposed to any decision made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Board of Trustees to close St. Nicholas Elementary School. I feel strongly that it is important to retain the oldest Catholic School in the Niagara Region and maintain the presence of a Catholic School in the downtown of St. Catharines.

Name	Address	Signature
Thomas Bonomi	73 Welland Ave	Thomas Bonomi
Bridget Bonomi	" "	Bridget Bonomi
Conceal Flatman	110 Church St.	
Lena Cloutier	121 Eastchester Ave	Lena Cloutier
Kasey Cloutier	121 Eastchester Ave	Kasey
Emily Bell	12 LORNE ST	Emily Bell
Quinn Bell	12 Lorne St	Quinn Bell
Thelma Engcang	62-122 Lakeshore	Thelma Engcang
Kelae Quigg	62-122 Lakeshore	Kelae Quigg
WAYNE SHEPARD	13 SHORE BLVD, ST. CATH ^{L2N} ST9	Wayne Shepard
JOE AGNINO	12 COUNTRYSIDE ST. CATH	Joe Agnino
MARIE STOTT	407 5TH Lake St	Marie Stott
Caroline O'Conna	56 Huntington Ln	Caroline O'Connell
Josh Krawtchuk	56 Huntington Ln	Josh Krawtchuk
TOM CLIFFORD	124 WESTLAND ST	Tom Clifford
ERLINDA DAYANT	12 VINE ST.	Erlinda
Josette Landry	174 Beech St.	Josette Landry

Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

As a parent/guardian and St. Nicholas School Supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am opposed to any decision made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Board of Trustees to close St. Nicholas Elementary School. I feel strongly that it is important to retain the oldest Catholic School in the Niagara Region and maintain the presence of a Catholic School in the downtown of St. Catharines.

Name	Address	Signature
Leah Gordon	77 Windward St.	L. Gordon
E Bruneau	10 Herrick St.	E Bruneau
John Sporen	56 Leaside dr	John Sporen
W. McFlay	196 SCOTT ST.	W. McFlay
Ge CELEST	45 WOODROW ST.	Ge CELEST
A. CELEST	45 Woodrow St.	Angela Celest
M. Shea	#15-10 Eldwood	M. Shea
D White	14 Dolly Circle	D White
B. McALEESE	46 MARMORA ST.	B. J. McAleese
M. GARCIA	103 WOODROW ST	Mike Garcia
Mike Garcia	103 WOODROW ST.	Mike Garcia
DONALDA SCARRY	9 ROSSIE PLACE	Donalda Scarry
MATT. MAC DONALD	131 Rockwood #29	Matt MacDonald
Deborah Wieg	264 Guntham	Deborah Wieg
Victoria Flatico	102 Bqtbican Trail St. Catharines	Victoria Flatico
LAUREL ALLISON	7 DIANNE DR. ST. CATHARINES	Laurel Allison
Kloreen Baker	17 Barnes Rd. St. Catharines	K. Baker

Dear Board members. Trustees, Teachers, Parents and fellow community members my names is Alanna Howell and I am a grade 8 student at St Nicholas School I have no brothers or sisters and it is my last year at St Nicks. So why would I care if St Nickolas closes ? It does not affect me right? But then again it does .

St Nicholas is 152 years old . So obviously it has a lot of history behind it , Can you imagine how many students have went there ? How many have been educated and have enjoyed their childhood at St Nicholas ? And to take that away from us, to take away a monument of St Catharines , you are taking away my legacy.

My mom went there , my aunt went there and I 'm going there, when I am older I want my kids to go there .Can you imagine how many other families are just like mine, maybe some people might have had there great great grandparents go there.

St Nicholas is the only Catholic school downtown that is connected to the Cathedral. So if you take away St Nicholas , you will just not take it away from me, but you will take St Nicholas away from the children of the past , present and future including the Cathedral.

So please don't take away our little school which is a big chunk of St Catharines history; 152 years of it. Thank you for your time and God bless you for your decision.

Alanna Howell
St Nicholas Grade 8 student.
56 Grantham Ave S.
905 685 7839



Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

As a parent/guardian and St. Nicholas School Supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am opposed to any decision made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Board of Trustees to close St. Nicholas Elementary School. I feel strongly that it is important to retain the oldest Catholic School in the Niagara Region and maintain the presence of a Catholic School in the downtown of St. Catharines.

Name	Address	Signature
Dorothea Jones	2045 - 80 Rockwood St. Catharines	Dorothea Jones
Rita M'Shane	26-308 Queenston	Rita M'Shane
Messon Portugeuse	382 Queenston #16	Messon Portugeuse
Elizabeth J. Silbert	49. East Chester Ave.	E. Silbert
Rita Parisee	46 Berness Dr	Rita Parisee
Suzanne McNamee	244 Graham Ave	S. M. M.
Carol King	31 Queen's St.	Carol King
E. King	31 Queen's St.	E. King
Lee Samuel	41 Monarch Park Dr	Lee Samuel
Lee Samuel	41 Monarch Park Dr	Lee Samuel
LOUISE YOUNG	60 WOODROW ST	Louise Young
Laurette Snejdar	264 Oakdale Ave, St. Cath.	Laurette Snejdar
Shirley R. Peterson	3305-413 Linwell	Shirley Peterson
Rose N Baker	23 Arlingdon Ave #11	R Baker
Josephine Callaghan	264 Oakdale Apt 303 ^{ST CATH.}	Josephine Callaghan
HELEN POPIEL	127 BUNTING RD UNIT 37	H. Popiel
R. A. WOOD	31 DEBORAH COURT	Robert A Wood





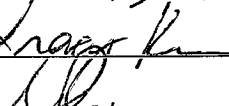
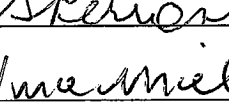
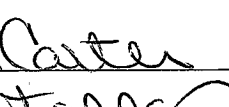
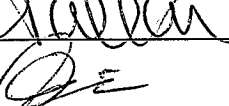
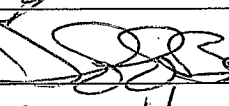
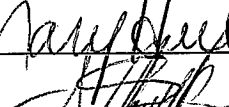
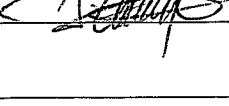
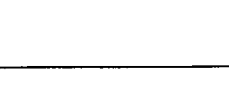


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Name	Address	Signature
Yvonne Wowk	4 MARMORA ST.	Yvonne Wowk
Diane Culp	45 Kinsey St	Diane Culp
Aimee Laliberte	54 Greenwood Ave	Aimee Laliberte
Claudia Quadra	15 McMichael circle	Claudia Quadra
Patrick Carter	66 Acadia Cres	Patrick Carter
John Arp	203 Russell Ave	John Arp
Edith Egert	49 North	Edith Egert
Kelly Britt	2 Ferndale Avenue	Kelly Britt
Hailea Squires	30 Marmora St.	Hailea Squires
Cheryl Fitzgk	32 Cherry St, St Cath	Cheryl Fitzgk
Vanessa Bianchi-Garcia	19 Wiley St	Vanessa Bianchi-Garcia
Michelle Miele	113 Queenston St.	Michelle Miele
Blanca	141 Church St.	Blanca
Bobby Charron	141 Church St	Bobby Charron
LEE PAGE	11 HERRICK AVE	Lee Page
Cathy Sonier	120 Louisa St.	Cathy Sonier
Dagmar Thoms	292 Oakdale Ave	Dagmar Thoms

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Name	Address	Signature
Antonio Resendiz	1 Clark St Apt-617	
Juan Carisigno	45 North st.	
Mercedes Verdell	45 North st.	
Carmen Leonardo	1 Clark St. 617	
Doug Kyer	122 Page St.	
Tracy Kyer	122 Page St	
Shelly Perrone	128 Louise St	
VINCE MIELE	113 QUEENSTON ST	
Kathy Carter	22 Terrace Hill	
Caren Tallon	31 Terrace Hill	
CHRISTINA CAPRI	308-45 North St.	
Jeff Bell	367 Geneva St	
Mary Hulse	55 Albert St.	
LA Sosa	12 Bruner Dr.	

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Name	Address	Signature
GORDAN GALLAWAY	1 Harper Cres	
Marion Moskal	2-31 Macdonell Ave	
Dany Cairns	51 Henry	
Rose Gallaway	1 Harper cres	
Phyllis Cairns	122 Bunting Rd.	
DONALD MCKINNON	55 1/2 HENRY ST	
BARRY MCMANN	145 WAVELOAKS	
Ian Mavissey	18 Hemlock St	
Kenny McCly	12 Lake St	
Bill WASH	656 NIAGARA ST	
Bill Hardley	13 Shave Cut	
Cindy Moore Beeds	29 Centre St.	
Alida Bos	4 Lockwood Dr	
Karen Young	513 Matthew Rd	
Donna	4 MEMORA ST	

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Name	Address	Signature
Mary Marsh	99 Church	M. Marsh
Phyllis Bonomi	73 Wollond Ave	P. Bonomi
FED DE LA CRUZ	61 GALE CREST	F. De la Cruz
A. Monti Zaitonelli	7 Murray Dr.	A. Monti
Jerry GACIK	29. JAMES ST. ST. CAT.	J. Gacik
Renata GACIK	29 JAMES ST. ST. CAT.	R. Gacik
Jackie Santos	15 Matthews Cr	J. Santos
Adelaida T. Sali	18 Harvest Grove	A. Sali
LORA MIANI	12 NORWOOD ST. ST. CATH.	L. Miani
Mrs J. Kamin	580 Line 3 North	J. Kamin
Melissa Hendricks	1804 Third Street	M. Hendricks
Ganni Hendricks	1804 Third St.	G. Hendricks
Robert Hendricks	1804 Third St. St. Catharines	R. Hendricks
Nieggoski Family	11000 St. Steadholder	Nieggoski
Leo Lehman	38 Northglen Ave.	L. Lehman
Louise Sheppard	42 Foxhill Cr	L. Sheppard

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Name	Address	Signature
Shelly Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Shelly Sheppard
Nicole Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Nicole Sheppard
Jessica Ward	11 Carluccio Cres.	Jessica Ward
LORIANNE KERRY	11 WHITE CREST	Loranne Kerry
LINDA HOWE	9 CHERRIMAN CRES	Linda Howe
Gary Sheppard	79 Rochelle Dr.	Gary Sheppard
GERRY BOLTON	12 KEEFER RO.	Gerry Bolton
Ann Lalorone	102 Woodland bl.	Ann Lalorone
Bill Proulx	12 Keefer Ro	Bill Proulx
P. Borozny	30 MONTEBELLO	P. Borozny
D. CHASSIE	102 Woodland	D. M. Chassie
P. Reeds	29 Center	P. Reeds
Sandy Mel	1029 Shaw St	Sandy Mel
Aimee Corton	14 Center St.	Aimee Corton
Rick Green	30 Montebello R	Rick Green
Trish Nash	656 Niagara St.	Trish Nash
RICK FAISEY	NO FIX ADD.	Rick Faisey

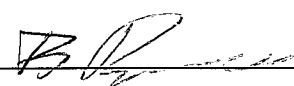
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Name	Address	Signature
Paul Souier	120 LOUISA ST	
Tanya Smith	38 Ker St	
Lorraine Beecher	33 Berkeley St	Lorraine Beecher
Tony Duchesneau	33 Berkeley St	Tony Duchesneau
Kelly Mayle	3 CROSS ST	
Carol Richard Dumont	21 George St	Carol R. Dumont
Sarrige	4 Grantham S.	Sarah Barrige
Manushage Avullija	165 Ontario St	
Olona Avullija	165 Ontario St	
Rachelle Koetker	1 Wills St	
Brian Koetker	1 Will St	
Jona Bygo	33 EDMUND ST	Jona Bygo
Cathy Munday	44 1/2 Division St	Cathy Munday
Timmy Denny	20 Russell Ave	Timmy Denny
Joe Savia	" "	JOE SAVIA
Billy Newlanos	117 WELLAND AVE	BILLY NEWLANOS
DAVID PAGE	11 HERBERT AVE	

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Name	Address	Signature
Bob Romo	St. Catharines	
Barbara Hardie	Grimby	B Hardie
S. Balanowski	St. Catharines	S. Balanowski
J. Wheeler	101 Glenridge	J. Wheeler
E. Phelan	50 Thomas St	EP
MARK HANLON	91 ELSE ST.	Mark Hanlon
Pauline Memme	137 martindale unit D	Pauline Memme
Teresa Ferrante	1335 Hutton Rd St Cath.	Herrante
M. Wilson	137 George St	M. Wilson
Lee Mitty	St. Catharines	see Dr. Irving
Thomas Brown	19 Henry St. St. Catharines	Thomas Brown
Jean Brady	St Cath.	Brady
Al Beaton	St Catharines	Al Beaton
PATTI BAKER	St. Catharines	Patti Baker
Miriam Conway	St. Catharines	117 Conway
Joshua Thiersem	St. Catharines	Joshua Thiersem
F. M. L. S. L.	St. Catharines	F. M. L. S. L.

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Name	Address	Signature
Michael Mastaley	292 oakdale	Michael Mastaley
Jimmy Thoms	292 oakdale	Jimmy Thoms
JED SENDZIK	22 Montedon Ave	Jed Sendzik
William Sendzik		William Sendzik
William McDermott	47 Carlisle St	William McDermott
Collette Saranckuk	180 King St, St. C.	Collette Saranckuk
PETER STRUCHTAK	180 KING ST.	Peter Struchtak
E. Rykovich		Paul Walkowski
J. Rykovich		
S. Francis	#811 7 - GALE CRESCENT	S. Francis
H. FRANCIS	#811 7 GALE CRESCENT	H. Francis
R. HEDDEN	Rolande Hedden.	R. Hedden
F. PAGE	271 DACOTAH	Flourie Page
E. Richards	137 Church St	E. Richards
May-Clare Carr	39 Flannery	May-Clare Carr
Waldemar Boland	3 Killmer	Waldemar Boland
Juha Zahank	99 Church	

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Name	Address	Signature
Louise Sandman ^{SANDMOEN}	365 Geneva St.	L Sandman
Jane Michland	494 Altonburg Rd	Jane Michland
Patricia Jenkins	12 Morning side	Patricia Jenkins
MAUREEN BOHANN	345 GENEVA ST	Maureen Bohann
J. Ireland	141 Church	J Ireland
C. PRASWANT	26 GRENADIER CRT	C Praswants
John Tilley (teacher)	66 October Drive	John Tilley
Sandra Chodarewicz ^{retired teacher}	A27 Gale Cr. City	Sandra Chodarewicz
Juan Vargas	438 Scott St. scatter	Juan Vargas
Juan Vargas M	438 SCOTT ST.	Juan Vargas
Fabio Bastamant	6 Westlake Ln #314	Fabio Bastamant
Deacon Jock	3 Lyman St 510	Deacon Jock
Dawn Rappell	11 Columbia	Dawn Rappell
Charles Bunt	44 West 11th St	Charles Bunt
STEVE KITTEL	8 JASMIN CRES	Steve Kittel
P. Kittel	8 Jasmin cres	P Kittel
Annette Urlock	46 Albert	Annette Urlock

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Name	Address	Signature
Melissa Landry	174 Beech St.	Melissa Landry
Marie Schumann-Peniveli	76 Sovereign Dr	Marie Schumann-Peniveli
D. Anne Hod Nassif	#35-141 W. Ward Lake Rd	D. Anne Hod Nassif
Red Cuzan	112 BARBICAN TRAIL	Red Cuzan
Luz Makinkim	39-157 Linwood Rd.	Luz Makinkim
Poz Blas	3 ROU. St. Nicholas. Paris	Poz Blas
DON MIKULINSKI	83 WEST FARMINGTON DR	Don Mikulinski
Anna Singh	110 SILVERCREST	Anna Singh
MICHAŁA SYLWA	1 WAIFE ST.	Michala Sylwa
Paula Niczowska	1 WAIFE ST.	Paula Niczowska
Klara Kross	28 Westland St.	K. Kross
Bryette Breen	31 Tavistock Rd	Bryette Breen
Danica Bucci	31 Tavistock Rd	Danica Bucci
MAURICE PRINDIVILLE	4 PIONEER COURT	Maurice Prindiville
Kelly Pattee	21 CIRCLE ST NOTL	Kelly Pattee
Diana Swarchuk	23 Oblate St South	Diana Swarchuk

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Name	Address	Signature
Tom Walsh	46 Albert St	Tom Walsh
Jeffrey Hunter	72 Farris	J. Hunter
Joe Kawala	4011 Brookdale Dr. NF	Joe Kawala
Patricia Simpson	4132 Brookdale Dr. ^{NF}	P. Simpson
James Simpson	4132 BROOKDALE DR.	J. Simpson
N. PENNINGTON	179 Highland Ave	N. Pennington
DAVID & KATHA VANSOY	99 Church St. Apt. 404	D. Vansoy
DALE DAVID	7 GALE CRES	D. David
Melita	32 Highland	Melita
Steve Pettes	54 RUNCORN	Steve Pettes
Francis Prindelwell	4 Puren Lt	F. Prindelwell
Joyce Di Angelo	23 Lowell Ave	Joyce Di Angelo
Mahine Kotteac	92 Page St.	M. Kotteac
Mary Howell	56 Githam Ave. S	M. Howell
Lana Coster	3 Colonial	Lana Coster
B. Lavoie	42 Lakeshore	B. Lavoie

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Name	Address	Signature
^{CHARLES TOYE} Charles Toye	7 RENFORTH SQ. ST. CATH.	Charles Toye
Mitcheline Oakes	4 Brooklyn Ct. St. Cath.	Mitcheline Oakes
Led Oakes	4 BROOKLYN CRT.	Led Oakes
Lois Rose Peanning	139 Highland	Lo. Peanning
Babs Schenk	1486 2nd Ave. SE	B. Schenk
Vanessa	94 Rospleen rd	Vanessa
W. M. S.	530 Broad St	W. M. S.
Ho Khalil	345 Geneva St	Ho Khalil
Swan D'Arcy	52 Akouth St	Swan D'Arcy
Courtney Taylor	50 St Patrick St	C. Taylor
Carol Patterson	172 Louth St	C. Patterson
M Brannigan	315 Geneva St	M Brannigan
Breg Baker	214 Main St	Breg Baker
Ann Baker	214 Main St	Ann Baker
Cody Cloutier	21 East Charles Ave	Cody Cloutier
Martina Bonomi	73 Welland Ave	M. Bonomi
Leo Bonomi	" "	Leo Bonomi

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Name	Address	Signature
GREG WASHUTA	65 McCalla Dr.	Greg Washuta
STAN LESNIEWSKI	20 BARBICAN TRAIL	Stan Lesniowski
CLAIRE CORUPE	30 McIntyre Ave	Claire Corupe
Janice Lesniowski	20 Barbican Trail	Janice Lesniowski
Kathy Sirotnik	65 McCalla Dr.	K. Sirotnik
Marlene Sheehan	10 1/2 George St	Marlene Sheehan
Greg Sheehan	67 York St	Greg Sheehan
Alysa Madson	79 Masterson Dr	Alysa Madson
Rosemary [unclear]	84 Masterson P. Pickering	Rosemary [unclear]
Alexis Thurston	1813 Foleyet Cres.	Alexis Thurston
A Thurston	1813 Foleyet Cres	A Thurston
Jane Madson	21 ST HELENA	Jane Madson
Alice McAul	292 Oakdale #305	Alice McAul
James Thoms	20 Meitlent	J. P. Thoms
Mary Thoms	20 Meitlent	M. Thoms

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Name	Address	Signature
Liz Slavovick	58 Shakespeare	
H. Saraminski	" "	H. Saraminski
CHRIS LEWIS	15 WESTFIELD DR.	
Donna McKeown	131 George St	Donna McKeown
PETER MAHONEY	183 ONTARIO ST	
MARIE TACINELLI	9. NORRIS PLACE. ST. C.	M. Tacinelli
R. Madden	102-7 Gale Cr	R. Madden
Ash Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Ash Baulus
Katerina Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Katerina Baulus
Victoria Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Victoria Baulus
Antonio Baulus	6365 Parkside Rd	Antonio Baulus
Sandra Smith	7869 petite Ave	Sandra Smith
Brian Smith	7869 petite Ave	Brian Smith
Steve McAulay	39 Lisard Dr	Steve McAulay

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Name	Address	Signature
Sara Mancini	92 Silver Maple Rd. ^{Thorold, ON} L2V5G6	Sara Mancini
Lise James	65 Alexandra Blvd	Lise James
Peggy Jackson	12 Thornton St.	Peggy Jackson
James MacLeod	50 Alexandra Blvd	James MacLeod
Mrs. & Mrs. J. McLean	47 Rosedale	J. McLean
Brian & Dana LeBlanc	67 ALGYLE CR.	B. LeBlanc
Karen Herdlee	321 Grantham Ave	Karen Herdlee
Tim Nish	72 LINCOLN AVE	Tim Nish
CATHY BERGES	76 Rockwood Ave	Cathy Berges
Jane Ferguson	122 Bunting Rd.	Jane Ferguson
Bea Mcguire	100 Royal Manor	Bea Mcguire
Linda Mitchell	25 Buiness Drive	Linda Mitchell
Melissa Frydell	115 Royal Manor	Melissa Frydell
Alice Ward	198 Scott St.	Alice Ward
TRICIA HOUGH	63 Canterbury DR.	Tricia Hough

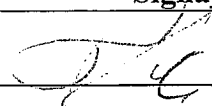
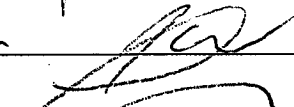
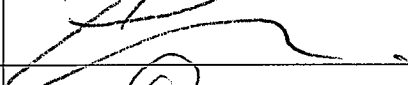
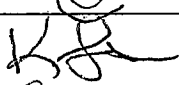
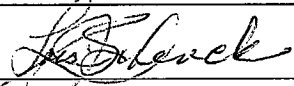
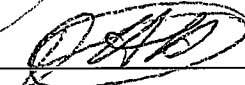
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Name	Address	Signature
Tanea West	268-1363 Lakeshore Rd ^{Burg}	Tanea West
YIMORA FARM	62 Shilland St	Yimora Farm
Jane DuLong	65 Longwood Ave	Jane DuLong
Marilyn Sebaste	126 Page St.	Marilyn Sebaste
J.D. Sebaste	126 Page St	J.D. Sebaste
MICHAEL GLEASON	157 WELAND AVE	Michael Gleason
EDGAR RESPICIO	8 THORNCHIFF DR	Edgar Respicio
Mr. M. Slawka	157 Linwell Rd.	Mr. M. Slawka
Mrs. All	83 Church St 207	Mrs. All
John	55 Lafayette Hs	John Gordon
George Schlang		
Harry Schlang		
CHARLES PRADA	98 ELMA ST.	Charles Prada
Bryntia Pantin	94 Elma St	Bryntia Pantin
Frank Berardi	2 FREDONIA CR.	Frank Berardi

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Name	Address	Signature
Frank Curran	540 Ontario St.	
Jeff West	1363 Lakeshore RD Brantford	
Heslie Landolt	7 GERRARD ST	
Gracie Landolt	7 GERRARD ST	
Katherine SITHCO	27 Harbour Glen Drive	
Laur Schenk	RK# 3, St. Catharines	
Joseph Bonomi	15 Gale Cres	
Bert + Wayne Shepard	13 Shore Blvd.	E. Shepard
Elena Glauka	152 Jimwell Rd.	E. Glauka
M.L. Scholl	67 Louth St	M.L. Scholl
R. Guertin	Apt 601, 37 Ontario St	R. Guertin
J. Colli	11 Keistan	J. Colli
A. Jovic	St. Cath. ON	A. Jovic
PAULA NIZAN	ST. CATH. ONT.	Paula Nizon

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Name	Address	Signature
Dorothy Gagola	34 Glenridge St. Cath	D. Gagola
Chrissa Szakacs	87 Queen St St Cath	C. Szakacs
Calb Szakacs	87 Queen St St Cath	Calb Szakacs
B. J. C. Bik	1146 Redwood	B. J. C. Bik
Stephanie Young	5401 Beaver Valley	S. Young
Molly O'Hearn & Linnell S.		M. O'Hearn
Marco Hollett	174 Highland	M. Hollett
MARTHA BONAMI	1 Clark	MB
MARY MACCORMICK	29 1/2 Howko St	Mary MacCormick
Antonio Resendiz	1 Clark St	AR
Carmen Resendiz	1 Clark St	CR
Frank Curran	540 Ontario Street	FC
Mary Vanscoy	99 Church St.	Mary Vanscoy
Trish Beardi		T. Beardi
Eleanor Donaghue	75 Lorraine Dr.	Eleanor Donaghue
SAMUEL DONAGHUE	75 LORRAINE DR.	Samuel Donaghue
Wanda McInnes	61 Galt Ave.	Wanda McInnes

Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

As a parent/guardian and St. Nicholas School Supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am opposed to any decision made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Board of Trustees to close St. Nicholas Elementary School. I feel strongly that it is important to retain the oldest Catholic School in the Niagara Region and maintain the presence of a Catholic School in the downtown of St. Catharines.

Name	Address	Signature
Reena Besa	18 Keefer Rd. Thorold, ON L2V 4Y4	Reena Besa
Reynaldo Besa	18 Keefer Rd. Thorold	Reynaldo Besa
Maria Ruby Besa	18 Keefer Rd Thorold	M R Besa
JOHN LARKIN	8 BLDG PLACE	John Larkin
n. Desanti	23 Westland	
A O'Brien		
Sixto ONGCANGCO	29 Wilcher Dr. ST CATHA	Sixto O'Georgio
Bola Akinwumi	45 North St	Bola
Edward Akinwumi	45 North St	Edward
Amanda Berardi	2 Fredonia	Amanda
Jenny + Trevor Anderson	141 Church St	J Anderson
Jane	115 Queen St	Jane
Marybener	1165 Ontario St	Marybener
Pamela Musingini	3-88 Westland Ave ST CATH	PMusingini

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Name	Address	Signature
Alejandra Villalobos	3 Vintage Crescent	Villalobos
Patricia Billy Newkants	117 Welland Ave	Billy Newkants
Leri Marcella	6361 Moretta Dr. WFO.	Leri Marcella
Lyllian Corbin	8 Elmwood Ave	Lyllian Corbin
Priscilla P. P. P.		Priscilla P. P.
Simona Skarady	313 Queenston St	Skarady Sim.
Steph Balogh	50	

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Name	Address	Signature
Megan Ingram	14 marmora st	Megan Ingram
Alonso Loaiza	6 Lincoln Ave	[Signature]
Jennifer Murphy	24 Bluegrass Cres.	[Signature]
Josue Hendricks	93 Albert St.	[Signature]
DAVE ROTZIK	404 VINE ST	[Signature]
Scuch		
Randi Kuban		
Amanda Copola		[Signature]
Lauren Link	372 Grantham Ave.	[Signature]
Ferdier Durango	103 Vine St south	[Signature]
Steph Whalen	136 Page St.	[Signature]
Lynn Anderson		
[Signature]		
Vanessa Garcia	19 Wiley St	[Signature]
Jodi Cragg	7 Fallingbrook Cr	[Signature]
Jordan Shillingford	19 Lorne St	[Signature]
Rocio Centeno	20 Dundonald St.	[Signature]

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Name	Address	Signature
GARY COOPER	158 ONTARIO ST ST CATHARINES	G. Cooper
S. KEENEY	7 TEWSPLACE ST. CAT.	S. Keene
J. CHERUSHENKO	60 CHAPLIN AVE	Jim Chermoshenko
Lynne Cunningham	48 Stewart St	Lynne Cunningham
KATHY KARAIM	90 Spring Garden Blvd	K. Karaim
ADAM AZZODARDI	34 Keswick St	A. Azzodardi
Dawn Kennedy	1 Inglis circle	D. Kennedy
DAVE CHAMBERLAIN	16 TRAPNELL ST.	D. Chamberlain
T. KITCHING	33 JEFFERSON DR.	T. Kitching
JASON MARIS	7101 DOLPHIN ST	J. Maris
Shannon Lawrence	192 Wellbrook	S. Lawrence
PETER BENNER	3848 SUMMIT	P. Benner
T. DUNNAN	53 BELAIR DR	T. Dunn
Sheryl McRoberts	7 Shower Crf	S. McRoberts
Lynna Redford	6056 PINE AVE DR	L. Redford
Craig Mustard	21 A Page St.	C. Mustard
Loel Ann Seehol	3 MacTomball Dr.	L. Seehol

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Name	Address	Signature
Sharon Coult	4 Pine meadow	Sharon Coult
LEONE PETTIT	APT 710 321 GENEVA ST	Leone Pettit
Cindy Scriven	262 Fanshawe Rd	Cindy Scriven
Victor Demkowicz	12 Barnsdale Lane	Victor Demkowicz
Caryn Helstrom	9 Midland, St Cath.	Caryn Helstrom
Andree Stecher	27 Chaplin Ave	Andree Stecher
Morochy Graham	423 Bunting	M. Graham
CETE MORRO	16 CLEN PARK RD	Cete Morro
A. Fraser	55- 122 Lakeshore	St. Cath.
F. LaPorte	1012-81 Scott	FRANCES LA PORTE
L. Kuo Linje	367 Geneva St.	L. Kuo Linje
M. Sawatzky	165 Ontario	M. Sawatzky
Julie Gill	107 Rupert	J. Gill
PETER HOWARD	22 NICKERSON	P. Howard
LYNN HOWARD	22 NICKERSON	Lynn Howard
Louise Spencer	Norris Pl	Louise Spencer
Lerty Lynn	Kilbourne Cres.	Lerty Lynn

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Name	Address	Signature
S. Addison	26 Cass St	
M Robson	124 Newark St	
P Moccio	53 Huntley Cres	
J B Murphy	28 GREYSON E C	
D Novak	120 Page St.	
Annette Bruder	377 Oakdale Ave	
Nesta Epina	86 Huntington	
Calton	97 Catharine	
C Alfaramo	87 Cath	
A Alfaramo	Sh. Cath	
J. Lambert	ST Cath	
E. Lambert	ST Cath	
W. Wong	"	
MARIA SARTAROLI	7 MARINE DR. ST. CATHARINES	
TOM OWENS	12 ROEMER DR	
Neil Rundle	321 GRANHAM AVE	

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Name	Address	Signature
Norma Harker	35 Dunbrine	Norma Harker
MICHAEL WALKER	35 Dunbrine	Michael Walker
Nora Dupuis	Allanburg	Nora Dupuis
Rosanne Young	St. Catharines	Rosanne Young
MAUREEN MOCCIO	ST. CATH.	Maureen Moccio
Mrs M Murphy	57 Coll	Mrs M Murphy
DON TRAUENF.	St Cath.	Don Trauenf.
JOHN N. PIECH	ST. CATH.	John N. Piech
KEVIN MISTA	ST. CATH	Kevin Mista
Loretta McNeil	St. Cath.	Loretta McNeil
E. Mrs. Lockton	St. Catharines	E. Mrs. Lockton
J Taylor	St Catharines	J Taylor
J. Ann McKenna	St. Catharines	J. Ann McKenna
Eric & Cheryl Aronoff	St Cath.	Eric & Cheryl Aronoff
Paula Lunn	14 Barnaby St.	Paula Lunn
D Puffin	312 Terrace Hill Rd.	D Puffin
Maree Goldstein	RR #1 St Cath	Maree Goldstein

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Name	Address	Signature
STEVE KITTEL	8 JOSHUA CRE.	<i>Steve Kittel</i>
Al Guggi	111 Queen St.	<i>Al Guggi</i>
DAVE SMITH	27 CHURCH	<i>Dave Smith</i>
Nancy Hawthorn	158 Ontario	<i>Nancy Hawthorn</i>
Jean MacKeil	13 Markham Cr.	<i>Jean MacKeil</i>
Margaret E. Ethington	54 Shakespeare	<i>Margaret E. Ethington</i>
FREDA MAUNDER	20 Helicon Rd. T.	<i>Freda Maunder</i>
Kerri Wall	51 Albert St.	<i>Kerri Wall</i>
KATIE SIMKO	610 LAKE ST	<i>Katie Simko</i>
Mary Shaver	59 Louisa St.	<i>R. Mary Shaver</i>
LORRAINE CHIVERS	75 LAKEPORT RD	<i>Lorraine Chivers</i>
Mr F. Nagy	17 Springbank Dr	<i>Mr Nagy</i>
PAULETTE LUKASZAK	137 CHURCH ST	<i>Paulette Lukaszak</i>
SANDY SHAWALTER	10 BOWSTEAD DR	<i>Sandy Shawalter</i>
JEAN HULL	10 BOWSTEAD DR	<i>Jean Hull</i>
SUZANNE KWOLEK	1061 BAUSICKA RD. N.	<i>Suzanne Kwolek</i>
Margaret Gusei	5 Lochrin Ave. Dr	<i>M. Gusei</i>

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Name	Address	Signature
Cindy Mosera	53 Huxley Cres St Cath	Cyner
Paul Mista	6 Brookdale Ave	M Paul Mista
Shannon Mista	27 Leaside Dr	Shannon Mista
Noris Konst	59 Longfellow Ave	N. Konst
Donna Dossola	38 Huron Ave	D. Dossola
Moog Wayne Kirkpatrick	3 Lyman Street	Wayne Kirkpatrick
Jim Mackay	272 Glenridge	J. Mackay
Al Fiddler	25 Semison	Al Fiddler
W. Hardie	77 Bell Ave	W. Hardie
Sigward Zimmerman	283 7th St	S. Zimmerman
Marilyn Ferracuti	35 Village Green	M. Ferracuti
Lee Lalonde	65 Sterling St.	Lee Lalonde
Rob Brown	65 Sterling St.	Rob Brown
Mary Kubi	3785 - 19th Ave	Mary Kubi
Killian Roman	3785 - 19th Ave	Killian Roman
Emily Thurston	27 Henry Street	Emily Thurston

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Name	Address	Signature
Maria Hedditch	583 Sawmill Rd St. Cath.	M Hedditch
Catherine Scott	3996 13 th St Tondan	C Scott
Lucas Choroski	220-196 Scott	L P Choroski
Frank Shul		Frank Shul
Yeray Roman	34 Victoria St	Yeray Roman
KAREN HEDDLE	321 Brunton Ave	K Heddle
Ian Hauber	33 Albert St	Ian H.
Michelene Hauber	33 Albert St.	Michelene Hauber
Paqueline Messinger	21 Friar's Court St. Catharines	P. J. Messinger
P. Cusumano	43 Kentwood Rd	P. Cusumano
Donnell Demers	43 Thomas St	Demers
Sister Patricia Conway	124 Richmond St	Sister Patricia Conway
Sister Kathleen Conway	" "	Sister Kathleen Conway

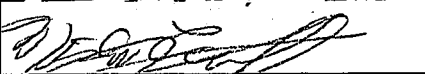


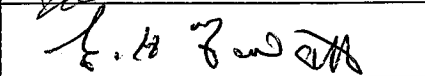
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Name	Address	Signature
Salvador Dayang	17 Ogilvie St. South St. Cath.	Salvador Dayang
Alga Barron	22 Prospect Ave. St. Cath.	Alga Barron
Sareen Thurston	27 Henry St.	Sareen Thurston
Jovita Illich	99 Church St. #306	Jovita Illich
Minda Parday	5185 Eldorado Avenue, N.F.O.	M Parday
Magie Respicio	8 Thorncliff Dr. St. Catharines	Magie Respicio
Stella Frenzbach	5988 Eldorado Ave. N.F.	Stella Frenzbach
FE EDRAVIN	66 WESTGATE PARK DR	FE Edravin
Cirilo Respicio	8 Thorncliff Drive	Cirilo Respicio
Poch Robles	8216 SPRING BLOSSOM DR	Poch Robles
FELY WHITFIELD	15 GALE Crescent	Fely Whitfield
Linda Krause	475 Bunting Rd	Linda Krause
Mercedes Demkowitz	12 Burnedale	Mercedes Demkowitz
Mary White	8 Wedgewood Ct	Mary White
Cip TABIGS	311-25 BARBARA DR.	Cip Tabigs
Liz Purser	62 Spring Garden	Liz Purser
Tom Purser	62 Spring Garden	Tom Purser

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Name	Address	Signature
	221.10	
Michael Cox	27 BARTON ST	
BRENT THOMAS	63 ACADIA CRES	
Jacob Chode	8 Princess Anne Cir	
G H PAWCYTT	28 BLUEGRASS CR	

Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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Name	Address	Signature
LOUISE GLENFIELD	21 GREENLAW PL. #8 ST. CATHARINES ON	L. Glenfield
Vera Berезuk	85-35 Westland St. St Cath. ON	Vera Berезuk
SIM Glenfield	30 Parkview Rd	S. Glenfield
John Justyle	99 Barbican Tr	John Justyle
Ellen Keefe	89 Woodhall Dr. #5	Ellen Keefe
Jaygo Packwood	39 Parkview	Jaygo Packwood
Jean Fawcett	26 BLUEGRASS CRES. UNIT 28 - ST. CATH. ONT	J. Fawcett
Gene Amolda	140 Colebrook N.O.T.L. Loc 130	Gene Amolda
Hilga Hoch	70 Regt Dr. St Cath	Hilga Hoch
R. Madras	53 Mc Ghee St St Cath	R. Madras
R. Coe Craft	27 Barton	R. Coe Craft
Brenda Pietri	165 Ontario St	Brenda Pietri
DAVID W. HOWE	14 Glen Park	David W. Howe
LINDA MARIE O'HAGAN	62 Louise St. S.C.	Linda Marie O'Hagan
Sarah Lelida	8 Princess Ann Cir	Sarah Lelida
Tony Lelida	8 Princess Ann Cir	Tony Lelida
W. Hampman	1300 Pelham Rd	W. Hampman

**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
PHYLLIS BONOMI - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

John Crocco, Director of Education
Kathy Burtnik, Secretary Treasurer
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON
L3C 7C1



Dear Sir/Madam:

I request permission to make the enclosed presentation at Denis Morris High School on the evening of February 18, 2009.
Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. Bonomi".

Phyllis Bonomi
73 Welland Ave.
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 2M8
905-641-0877

History of St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas has a 150 year old history. Our first Catholic School was opened in 1857 in downtown St. Catharines. The reason the school opened was to meet the needs of new immigrants to the area. That need is still present in the downtown. We were there for the early newcomers to our city and we must be here for the newcomers today. Our immigrant families still need accessible Catholic education. Downtowns tend to be gathering points for newcomers; they arrive here and live here. Without St. Nicholas, new families in the area may resort to sending their children to one of the two public schools located near by, rather than sending their children by bus to a Catholic school further away. St. Nicholas has a positive impact on the surrounding community.

My personal history at St. Nicholas is one that is very close to my heart.

My husband Leo Bonomi attended St. Nicholas as did all of our 4 children. Our children received an excellent education at St. Nicholas that prepared them for High School at Denis Morris as well as post-secondary education. Our eldest is a graduate of University of Western Ontario, our 2nd daughter is in 3rd year at Western and our two youngest are still attending Denis Morris. We truly believe that the education our children received at St. Nicholas exceeded the academic requirement. It prepared them for the real world. The unique blend of staff and students form a cross-section of backgrounds at St. Nicholas school. The diversity that makes up St. Nicholas school is not available elsewhere. Students become exposed to different cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and socio-economic conditions. This has proved to be invaluable to my children in making sound judgements that affected their lives in a very real way.

If you close St. Nicholas School you will never be able to build downtown again, as there is no available land. Although urban sprawl has affected all city centres, it is still extremely important to have a Catholic elementary school in our downtown for our downtown residents. It is important for these young people to have a school in *their* neighbourhood. This school is one that they can call their own, and that is a privilege that all students deserve.

**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
HEATHER FOSS - ST. CATHARINES DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND
REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

PRESENTER INFORMATION



Councillor Heather Foss
Co-Chair, St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee
134 Geneva Street
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 4N6

Home : 905-641-6251
hfoss@stcatharines.ca

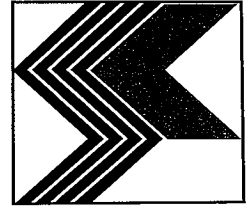
PRESENTATION CONCERNING POSSIBLE CLOSURE
OF ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL BY

THE ST. CATHARINES DOWNTOWN
DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

PRESENTER: COUNCILLOR HEATHER FOSS, CO-CHAIR,
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND
REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

CITY HALL
50 CHURCH STREET
P.O. BOX 3012
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO
L2R 7C2



TEL. 905-688-5601

January 15, 2009

Presentation Re: Consideration of Closure of St. Nicholas School
St. Catharines

The St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee (DDRC) was established by St. Catharines City Council to advise on matters related to the revitalization of the downtown area. On November 27th, 2008, the DDRC received a presentation by a concerned resident about the possible closure of St. Nicholas School.

As you know, Downtown St. Catharines has been designated by the Provincial Government as the only Urban Growth Centre in the Niagara Region through the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. This designation requires a minimum density of 150 residents/jobs per acre for all new development in this area. City Council has adopted the proposed Growth Centre boundaries to include the area south of Welland Avenue to the Highway 406, to Ontario Street on the west, and out to the intersection of Queenston Street and Church Street to the east (see map attached). The site where the current school is located is within this area. Within this area over the next 20 years, it is anticipated that over 2,000 new residential units will be constructed. The future of the downtown is based on a combination of concentrated commercial core with residential development to the east in and around the existing school site.

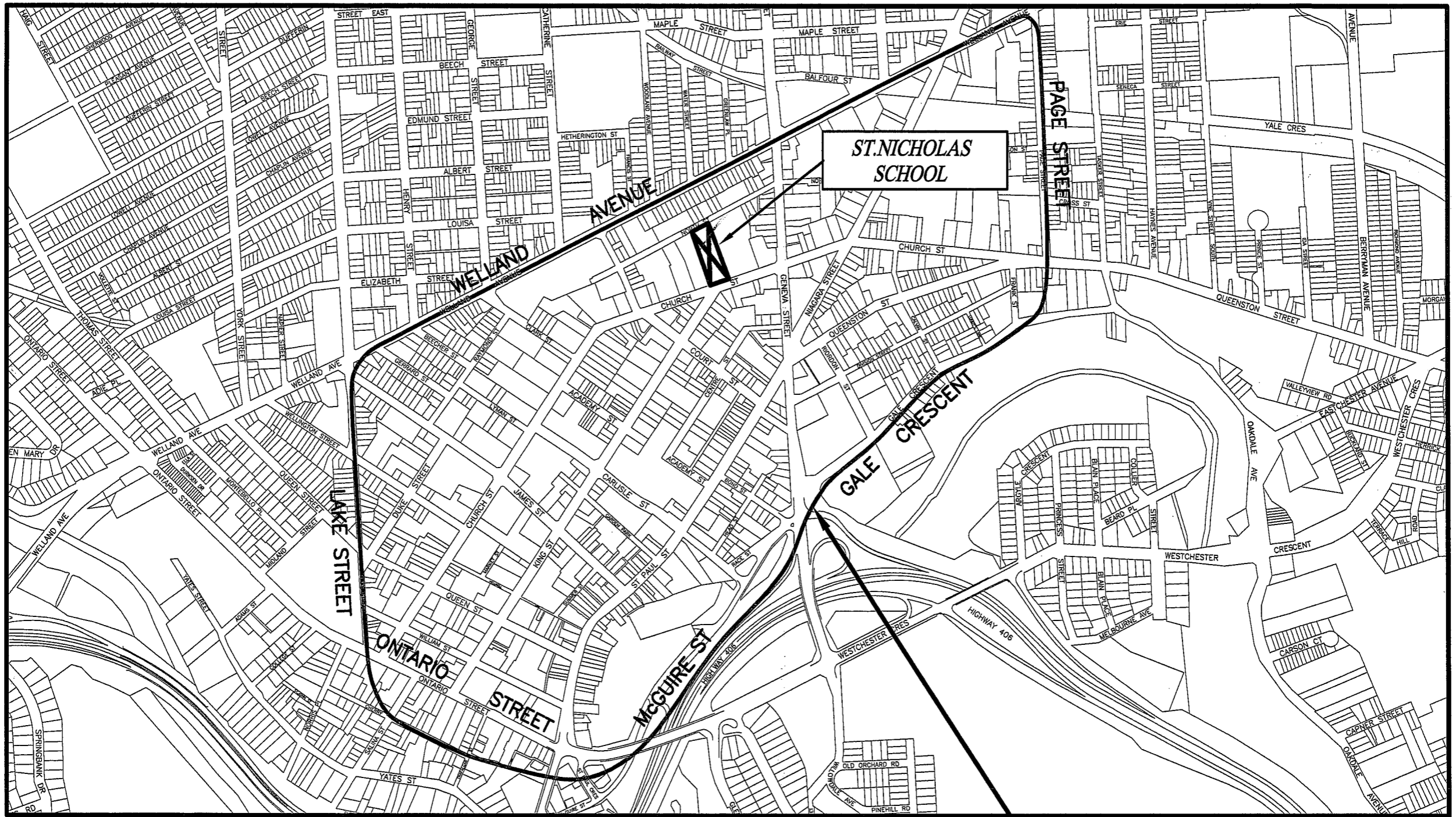
A school is an important component of any residential area. It is an important facility that particularly younger families look for in making housing choice. As such, the continuation of the presence of an elementary school is considered very important in helping the City to achieve the longer term provincial targets.

The DDRC recognizes that school boards are faced with difficult decisions concerning school capacity based on changing demographics. DDRC requests that Board give serious consideration to all options that would allow the continuation of a school presence within the Urban Growth Centre designation including partnering with different community groups and other public agencies to keep the school open before making a decision to close this school.

If you require additional information please contact Paul Chapman, Director of Planning Services, City of St. Catharines by email at pchapman@stcatharines.ca or (905) 688-5601 Ext. 1713.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Submitted on behalf of
St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee



URBAN GROWTH CENTRE BOUNDARY

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
TOM BAKER, NORM HERBERT - OUR LADY OF FATIMA
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Special Board Meeting
Public Session
February 18, 2009**

**TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
TOM BAKER, NORM HERBERT - OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Our Lady of Fatima Parent Committee
c/o Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School
439 Vine St N
St Catharines, Ontario
L2M 3S6

(905) 935-4343
(905) 935-3943 (Fax)



February 9th, 2009

To: Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1

Re: Public Input Presentation Application for Our Lady of Fatima School

Please accept the following written presentation as the Our Lady of Fatima School's Parent Committee Members application, requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation.

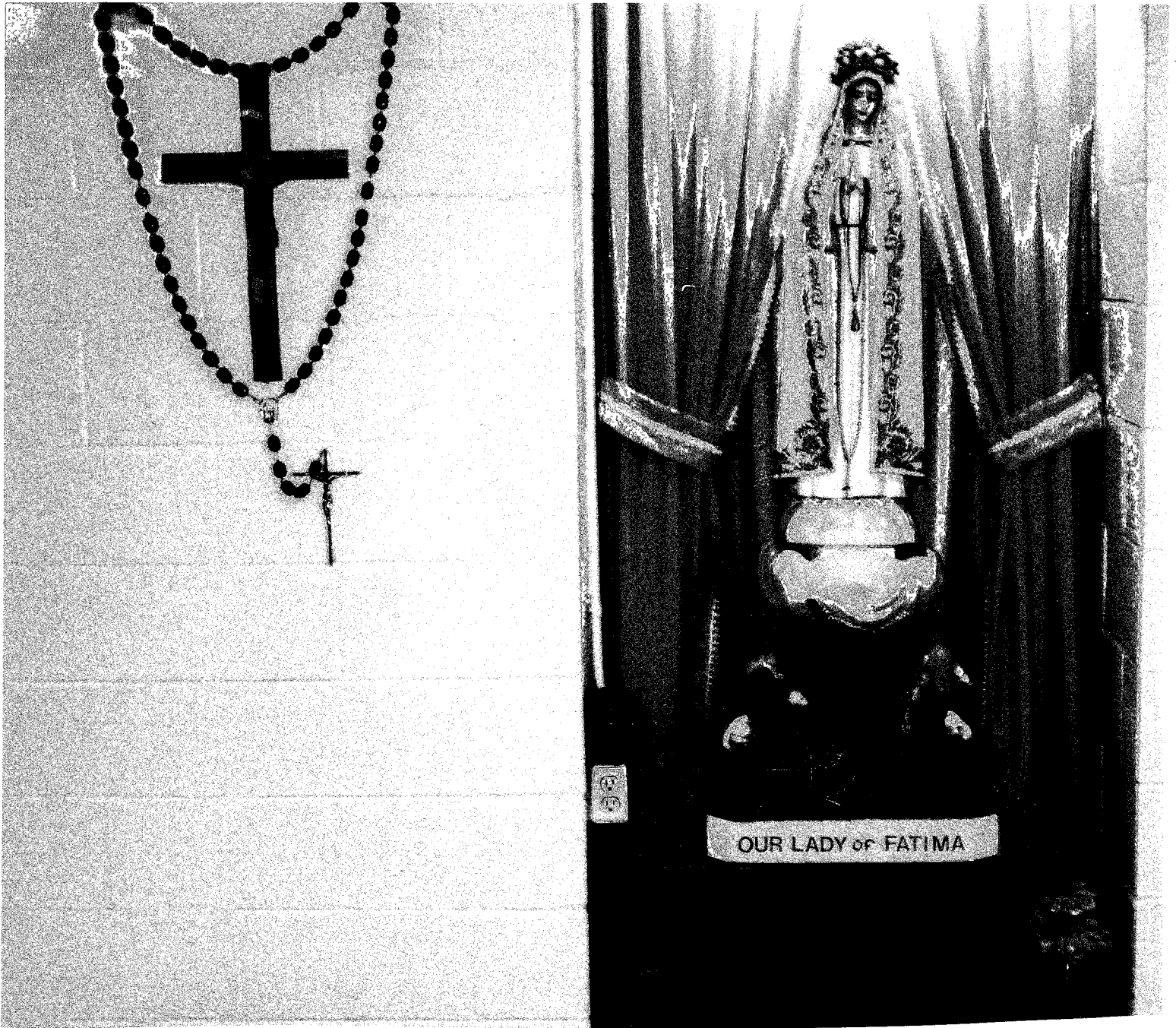
Respectfully Submitted,

Parent's Committee of Our Lady of Fatima School
St. Catharines

Pupil Accommodation Review Process

- a) This is the written presentation that was requested.
- b) The following are the two individuals who will be presenting at the Public Input Meeting:
- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| i) | Names of Presenters | Tom Baker | Norm Herbert |
| ii) | Not Applicable | | |
| iii) | Address | 28 Old Coach Road
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2N 2P5 | 21 Arran Drive
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2N 1L6 |
| iv) | Daytime Phone Number | (905)-562-7321 | (905) 501-7971 |
| v) | After business hours phone number | (905) 937-0955 | (905) 984-9995 |
| vi) | Fax Number | (905) 562-0955 | NA |
| vii) | E-mail address | <u>tom@bayviewflowers.com</u> | <u>Nherbert@niagara.com</u> |
| viii) | Formal presentation, as follows. | | |
- c) Formal presentation, will be received on time

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, Parent Presentation



Mission Statement:

"As a community of believers and life-long learners, we answer God's call to be the best we can be in all that we do."

Introduction

As a committee of concerned parents of Our Lady of Fatima School, we would like to keep our school open, allowing the families in our community to make the best decision for their children, and keeping Catholic education strong in our neighbourhood.

School Motto

“Falcons – Soaring Towards Excellence”

History of our school

Our Lady of Fatima is a warm inviting school facility located in the north end of St. Catharines. It opened in 1952 with four classrooms and held 148 students as an annex of St. Alfred Catholic School.

Our Lady of Fatima officially opened in 1954 at the current site and has recently celebrated its 50th anniversary of Catholic education.

In 1962 Our Lady of Fatima became a K-6 school. Additional classrooms were built in 1958 and 1960. In final addition, including a gym and change rooms, five classrooms and a library, were completed in 1983. In 1984 Our Lady of Fatima became a K-8 school.

Total enrolment as of September 2008: 195

Introduction

As a committee of concerned parents of Our Lady of Fatima School, we would like to keep our school open, allowing the families in our community to make the best decision for their children, and keeping Catholic education strong in our neighbourhood.

Table of Contents

1. Value to the Student
2. Value to the School Board
3. Value to the Community
4. Value to the Local Economy
5. Letters from present and past students.
6. Additional actions to consider and Closing

1. Value to the Student

What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- Quality time is taken between teachers and students.
- A full range of standard activities are offered to our students including new and innovative programs such as Chess Club, Curling, Scientist in the Classroom, You Are the Chef and Scrabble.
- Our building adequately houses a full JK to Grade 8 school, and could include a full day JK/SK program.
- A full size gym and an abundance of green space offer our students opportunity for physical activities. We include 2 playground areas, 4 soccer fields, and 1 baseball field.
- Our school is completely handicap accessibility including a private washroom.
- Our school meets all the criteria for Health, Safety and Security.
- Due to the location of our school, many of our students, walk or bike to school regularly. This provides the regular opportunity for physical activity for our students.
- Our parish priest is involved in our school community regularly, whether it be at St. Alfred's Church or at our school.
- There is a proven social fabric that this school brings to both the community and the students. We have significant number of alumni who have chosen to have their children attend this school and have intentional relocated to this area, and have also made the decision to relocate "back to their roots" for purposes of raising and educating their young families.

2. Value to the School Board

What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- Capacity to house specialized teaching spaces, such as ESL, JK/SK full day.
- Ready well-kept building of capital asset.
- Due to the location of Our Lady of Fatima, we are situated in a warm and lovely area, perfectly positioned for young families. There is a current trend for people to relocate to our area due to economic downsizing, returning to their roots, and/or to live in a more affordable area especially for those downsizing their residences or purchasing their first homes.
- By extending the school boundaries outside of their current structure, we have the physical assets within our school to accommodate the increase in enrolment of new and transferred students and incorporate new programs offered by the Board and thus reduce the overall need of the Board to invest in capital expenditures that other options may require.
- The capacity potential of our school will also address the fact that a significant number of home owners in our area are the original home owners and as they move out due to health reasons, aging, etc these supply of homes it is proven that these homes are consistently bought by the young families as noted in the previous point.

3. Value to the Community

What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- Value to the faith community, our school is an important part of the largest diocese of St. Catharines.
- Our school community financially supports local businesses through internal programs.
- Business community partnership – volunteers support student literacy in primary grades through programs such as Costco Reading.
- Our facilities (both inside and outside) are well utilized by outside groups in the local community. In door hockey, Youth Action, Soccer Field and YMCA Daycare.

4. Value to the local economy

What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- Our school community uses local businesses as much as possible, please refer to the notes provided on Value to the Community.
- We work hand in hand with the students in the co-operative education program at Holy Cross Secondary School in conjunction with our local fundraisers.

5. Letters from Students (Past and Present)

To whomever it may concern,

When I was asked to write this letter concerning Our Lady of Fatima, I accepted immediately. Never mind that I have a million different things on my *to do list*, or that it is the start of second semester. Taking a few short minutes out of my day to write this letter is nothing compared to the years of memories that I've obtained at Our Lady of Fatima, so it is the least I could do for a school that has done so much for me.

When I arrived at Our Lady of Fatima, I actually despised it. Not that it was the school's fault, I simply hated the idea of change-I had gone to another school for the first few years of my education- and I had no patience for anything the school had to offer. But after a short-time I began to make friends with my tight-knit class and had a close bond with my teachers. I didn't know it then, but the school's, and its inhabitants, charm won me over for life.

It is the simple things about the school that has me, looking at it now I believe that its small size is charming, its classrooms were a great place to learn and those soccer fields hold a large portion of my memories. Though I haven't been able to visit the school for about a year now, I have yearned to stand on the black top waiting for the familiar bell to ring, and the kids to rush out, the teacher's waving them away and directing them to the bus. In my older years I have found that schools these days can be somewhat institutional-like, but I still see Fatima like a friendly neighbour I can count on.

Not only have I made life-long friends there, but I also have developed bonds with past teachers. Though Fatima is small, that is what makes it a great school! Students get individual help, there is hardly a rush and teachers seem to be treated very well. Overall, its size makes it an easier environment to learn in and from.

I spoke to a fellow Falcon today, and told her about this letter and its purpose, she then told me something I had long forgotten. She told me that her little sister attends that school, as well as she and same with her mother. She also told me that she intends for her future children to attend Our Lady Of Fatima. Not just to carry on the legacy, but to share with her children the amazing and heart-warming experience's that she experienced at Fatima. While she told me this, I had also decided that I would also enjoy seeing my children attend Our Lady Of Fatima, so they also could experience the warmth and love towards the school that I do now.

In the end, it would be a shame to close down Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, not just because of my statements above, but because it would be wrong to end something so great. Closing the school would not ruin my memories of it, but it would in fact disable other children from making new ones at a school that has been around for so many generations and holds many beautiful memories for many people. So, I repeat, it would truly be a shame to put an end to such a glorious place.

Sincerely,

Brynn Downey

Grade 10

5. Letters from Students (Past and Present)

Date: Saturday February 7, 2009

Dear Our Lady of Fatima School,

My friend and I have written this letter to you to inform you on why the school shouldn't close. Our Lady of Fatima School is a welcoming and caring school that provides individual attention to all students because of it's small but academically smart students and staff!

The first reason why we don't want this school to close is because Our Lady of Fatima is a great school that provides a good education and cares about all students. The second reason is because of its great perseverance towards the students. It may be a small school but it has the ability to win overall. We students who choose to go to a Catholic school have the right to have a Catholic school in our neighbourhood. A Catholic school in your neighbourhood gives you a sense of belonging. Our Lady of Fatima has a great quality of education. No matter how big or small this school is, it is filled with caring and respectful teachers, students and staff. If you would close this school think, about how many students and staff would be disappointed. If you would close the school, most cherished memories would be lost as well as the actual building. Our family members have come and gone at this school and now it is our turn! We have enjoyed seeing our family members and friend's graduation pictures up on the wall and their memories would be lost as well as ours if the school would close. If you were to close the school the teachers would not only lose their jobs, but they wouldn't see the kids anymore! The students enjoy having their teachers and the students always feel comfortable around them. The teachers know the students very well and are able to have fun with them. If you are going to close this school think about the memories of the staff and students and its pass staff and students because all people that come to Our Lady of Fatima School are charmed by not only its size but its perseverance. If you think that the school should close because it doesn't have enough students, then consider changing the boundaries so that those who choose to come to our school can and also students will have fond memories of a good quality school and we have enough students to keep the school open! We hope that you change your mind after this letter!

On behalf of the Grade 6 students of Our Lady Of Fatima

Olivia Dim and Palmina Conversano

6. Additional actions to consider:

1. All aspect of growth needs to be revisited specifically with respect to the neighbourhood surrounding Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in the near future continuing into 2023.
2. With nominal investment, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School could house the Y-Daycare Program to accommodate the ½ day SK and JK classes. This would, in turn, increase our numbers significantly as currently we do not meet the standards required.

Thank you for reviewing our presentation, we look forward to formally presenting at the Pupil Accommodation Review Process Public Input Meeting on February 18th, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

The Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Parent Committee Group



PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC INPUT

As required by the Closure of Schools/ Accommodation Review Policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board will hold a special Board meeting for public input regarding the School Valuation Report filed by the Accommodation Review Committee and the Director's Report. These special Board meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Niagara Falls Elementary - 7:00 p.m. February 17th, 2009, at Saint Michael Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Elementary - 7:00 p.m. February 18th, 2009, at Denis Morris Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Secondary - 7:00 p.m. February 23rd, 2009, at Denis Morris Catholic High School

The public may provide a written report to the Director of Education at any time.

The following Guidelines describe the public meeting process.

Delegation Application Process

The public meeting will follow the By-law of the Board for public delegations in modified form, as set out below. The modifications are intended to facilitate public participation.

- (a) Written application requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation must be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 10th, 2009.
- (b) The following information should be included with this application:
 - (i) The name of the organization/individual(s) or party(ies) who will be making the presentation;
 - (ii) Their authority/title/position with the organization (if applicable);
 - (iii) A complete mailing address;
 - (iv) A day time telephone number;
 - (v) A number where they can be reached after business hours;
 - (vi) A fax number (if available);
 - (vii) An e-mail address (if available);
 - (viii) The complete presentation in written format

- (c) Delegations are encouraged to send the Presentation in as soon as possible so that it can be provided to and reviewed by Trustees prior to the meeting. Presentations that are received on a timely basis will be considered and addressed in the Director's follow-up report to the Board required by the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy in which the Director will report on and respond to the presentations made by the public. A presentation that is submitted late may not be addressed in the Director's follow-up report although it will be made available to the Trustees.

Delegation Presentation

Minutes of the Special Board Meetings including references to the presentations will be posted on the Board's website.

- (a) The identified spokespersons will address the Trustees from the podium.
- (b) The spokespersons are expected to provide comments that are relevant to the subject matter of the meeting. If a previous delegation has already addressed the matter and the delegate is being repetitive, the Chairperson of the Board may request the delegate to express support for an earlier presentation and may reduce the following speaking times available to the delegate accordingly.
- (c) The time for each public delegation to speak, excluding the question and answer period, is not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes, with normally a five (5) minute question period following.
- (d) Delegates who have a similar perspective are encouraged to co-operate in appointing spokespersons in addressing the Board.
- (e) Delegations from the same school community on the same point of view shall be limited to a combined total of fifteen (15) minutes.
- (f) Delegations who are unrelated to a particular school community but who are speaking on a common issue shall be limited to a combined total of fifteen (15) minutes.
- (g) Trustees may ask questions of the delegation for clarification only, for a period of time which shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- (h) The Chairperson will apply the normal Board practices in respect of decorum and order at the meeting.
- (i) The Board will not permit delegations respecting the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy at other Board meetings.
- (j) In accordance with Board By-law 7.5 the Board shall not remain in session later than 11:00 p.m. unless so determined by a 2/3 majority of the members present.

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 23, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 18, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Monday, February 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Denis Morris Catholic High School in Niagara Falls.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Scalzi.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Dekker
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Maurice Charbonneau from attending the Special Board Meeting of February 23, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau		✓
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire		✓
Christina Volpini		✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of February 23, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

Director Crocco informed the audience that one St. Catharines Elementary Presentation would be heard tonight and that the decision to hear the Presentation was made in consultation with the Chairperson of the Board and was supported by all Trustees. Ms. Thoms letter was included in the Correspondence Section of the Special Board Meeting Agenda of Wednesday, February 18, 2009. Following a conversation between the Director and Ms. Thoms, it was clarified that the letter received by the Director was intended to be presented as a Delegation and not Correspondence.

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. **Overview of Special Board Meeting Procedures**

Chairperson Burtnik welcomed all those in attendance, and gave an overview of the Special Board Meeting Procedures. It was reiterated that this Meeting is being held in order to provide an opportunity for public input and for the Board to listen and ask questions of clarification regarding pupil accommodation review.

Chairperson Burtnik affirmed that the recommendations resulting from the Special Board Meetings and subsequent meetings of Senior Staff will be presented in a Senior Staff Follow-Up report at the March 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The audience was advised of the approved Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input and the Delegation Application Process, which required written applications requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2009.

Trustees received copies of the written submissions on February 10, 2009 allowing them the opportunity to thoroughly review the submissions prior to the presentations.

B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **Pupil Accommodation Review Highlights and Recommendation**

John Crocco, Director of Education, presented the Pupil Accommodation Review highlights and recommendations currently being proposed as a result of the Accommodation Review Committee recommendations and the subsequent Senior Staff review.

Director Crocco reviewed the process followed along with the approved schedule of events, and stated that all presentations and correspondence are posted on the Board's Website under the Pupil Accommodations Review Tab.

C. DELEGATIONS

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS ST. CATHARINES ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY

1. St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

Dagmar Thoms, Community Representative, made a presentation regarding St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

2. St. Francis Catholic Secondary School

Sue Hendriks and Patty Rempel, Community Representatives, made a presentation regarding St. Francis Catholic Secondary School as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS & OTHER BUSINESS

E. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

F. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

G. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the February 23, 2009 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 23, 2009.

Approved on the 24th day of February 2009.

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
DAGMAR THOMS - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 26, 2009

Mr. Crocco,
Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. KathyBurtnik
Chair Mr Frank Fera.
Vice-Chair
Trustees of the Niagara Catholic Parents
Principals and Guests



One hundred and fifty-two years ago there was a group of people like us today who were probably discussing how to extend Catholic Education into Southern Ontario. The Sisters of St. Joseph took this task on their shoulders and a Catholic Elementary School opened which they called St. Nicholas.

St. Nicholas was opened one hundred years before we became the Diocese of St. Catharines and nine years before Canada became a nation. As we all know November 9, 2008 was the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese and we are discussing possible closure of St. Nicholas school. With this move we will take the reception of the holy sacraments for our children away from our mother church the Cathedral resulting in the absence of elementary school sacraments forever.

In the event of the closure of St. Nicholas school students would be transferred by bus to St. Denis. Transfer by bus adds complication to an already busy lifestyle; therefore we would lose these students to the public school system due to convenience and school location.

Ladies and Gentlemen I am sure if our ancestors would know the situation today we would still have the original building of St. Nicholas school.

Thank you for your consideration
Sincerely,


Dagmar Thoms
Parent of St. Nicholas School Student

Address 292 Oakdale Ave Apt 405
St Catharines Ontario L2S 2P7
905-688-4308 (home)
cell 905-360-0023

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
SUE HENDRIKS & PATTY REMPEL
ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



February 2, 2009

Mr. John Crocco, Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco

Re: Request for Delegate Presentation

I would like to request the opportunity to address the Board at the February 23rd public meeting regarding the School Valuation Report. Sue Hendriks and Patty Rempel, both parents of children attending St. Francis Catholic Secondary School, will address the Board. Please find attached the commentary that will coincide with a Power Point presentation.

Following is the contact information as requested:

Patty Rempel
96 Queen Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 5H3
Phone: 905-685-5522 (day & evening)
Fax: 905-687-3325
E-mail: rempe@niagara.com

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P Rempel".

Patty Rempel

The Case for St Francis

Good evening Mr. Crocco, Superintendents of Education and Board of Trustees. My name is Sue Hendriks and along with Patty Rempel, we are representing the parent community of St Francis Secondary School. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to present to you our Case for St Francis, home of the phoenix.

Our school mascot the phoenix is a beautiful, mythical bird. It is a symbol of the sun, rebirth, resurrection and immortality. It was believed to have died in flames and out of the ashes a new phoenix would rise. St Francis continues to rise above its physical challenges and delivers an exceptionally high quality education in a strong faith based environment.

The accommodation review committee valuation report shows that St Francis falls short behind Denis Morris and Holy Cross by 33 to 36 points.

St Francis lost points in such areas as internal space for learning, number of portables, amount of cafeteria space, condition of school and cost of upgrades.

St Francis ranked the lowest overall on the scoring rubric but it is interesting to note that we lost the greatest number of points in only 5 to 7 out of 44 total questions.

St Francis has developed a reputation of academic excellence that supersedes the building.

EQAO math results show that Niagara Catholic students surpass provincial results in testing .As you can see St Francis students continue to achieve the highest results.

Literacy test results also show outstanding scores from St Francis students.

St Francis offers a large variety of co-curricular activities. Year after year our students experience success and personal growth due not only to their hard work and determination, but also because of the guidance and dedication of our excellent staff and volunteers.

Every Fall St Francis students walk in solidarity with Denis Morris and Holy Cross at a Pilgrimage aimed at raising awareness and funds for the poor in developing countries. Last year over 500 St Francis students participated raising an amazing \$45,000.00. This year's theme was We've Got Soul and over 570 St Francis students and community pulled together raising over \$56,000.00. It was overwhelming for us as parent volunteers to watch over 500 well behaved St Francis students and staff fill half the Market Square and celebrate Mass together with fellow peers at Denis Morris and Holy Cross.

The Christmas gift drive annually gives our students the opportunity to serve others. Last year St Francis collected gifts for Community Care and gift items for 75 bags and baskets that were distributed throughout our region.

St Francis is a community school. Perhaps you have read some of the letters to the editor in the St Catharines Standard where members of our community have written in support of St Francis. Terry Rempel wrote "People are voting with their feet and flooding St Francis. St Francis has earned and maintained a widely known reputation for excellence." Mike Bonomi echoes this when he wrote "St Francis has established a very positive reputation and has achieved high standards both academically and athletically. You simply cannot duplicate or replace that."

Electronically, past and present students of St Francis are reaching out through Facebook. The site Save the Future of St Francis is 160 members strong and the message is clear. I invite you to go online and read for yourself all the positive comments that past and present students have to say about their school.

On December 2, 2008 Senior Staff presented their recommendations to the Niagara Catholic District school board for consideration. The parent community of St Francis fully supports the recommendation that the Board maintain all 3 Catholic Secondary schools. It was also encouraging to read that the Senior Staff recommends continuing to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding to provide facility plant upgrades to St Francis. However, we are concerned with the proposed boundary review. If the St Francis boundaries are minimized then specialized programs currently offered at St Francis could be at risk. We ask that this point be taken into consideration.

In conclusion, Catholic education will continue to thrive in the Niagara Region only with the shared efforts of parents, students, staff and the school board. St Francis Secondary School, year after year, provides an exceptional learning environment which educates its students academically, socially and spiritually. Declining enrollment is not an issue for us. In fact at our grade 8 open house it was literally standing room only. Our future parents and students showed us in overwhelming numbers that despite a black cloud of possible closure they were choosing us, and more importantly choosing Catholic education. We, the parent community of St Francis, acknowledge the huge responsibility that you have been given in this decision making. We appreciate this time that you have given us to show you some of the many reasons why St Francis along with Holy Cross and Denis Morris, is an essential component of Catholic Secondary Education in Niagara.

Thank you

THE CASE FOR ST. FRANCIS

SLIDE 1 – ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY

Good evening Mr. Crocco, Superintendents of Education and Board of Trustees. My name is Sue Hendriks and along with Patty Rempel, we are representing the parent community of St. Francis Catholic Secondary School. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to present to you our Case for St. Francis, home of the Phoenix.

SLIDE 2 - INTRODUCTION

Our school mascot the Phoenix is a beautiful, mythical bird. It is a symbol of the sun, rebirth, resurrection and immortality. It was believed to have died in flames and out of the ashes a new phoenix would rise. St. Francis continues to rise above its physical challenges and delivers an exceptionally high quality education in a strong faith based environment.

SLIDE 3 – ARC SCHOOL VALUATION

The accommodation review committee valuation report shows that St. Francis falls short behind Denis Morris and Holy Cross by 33 to 36 points.

SLIDE 4 – ARC SCHOOL VALUATION

St. Francis lost points in such areas as internal space for learning, number of portables, amount of cafeteria space, condition of school and cost of upgrades.

SLIDE 5 – SUMMATION OF ARC

St. Francis ranked the lowest overall on the scoring rubric but it is interesting to note that we lost the greatest number of points in only 5 to 7 out of 44 total questions.

SLIDE 6 - EXCELLENCE

St. Francis has developed a reputation of academic excellence that supersedes the building.

SLIDE 7 – EQAO MATH RESULTS 2008

EQAO math results show that Niagara Catholic students surpass provincial results in testing. As you can see St. Francis students continue to achieve the highest results.

SLIDE 8 – EQAO LITERACY RESULTS 2008

Literacy test results also show outstanding scores from St. Francis students.

SLIDE 9 – CO-CURRICULAR

St. Francis offers a large variety of co-curricular activities as shown in our power point. We've highlighted just some of our accomplishments over the past year.

PAUSE

Year after year our students experience success and personal growth due not only to their hard work and determination, but also because of the guidance and dedication of our excellent staff and volunteers.

SLIDE 10 – PILGRIMAGE 2008

Every Fall St. Francis students walk in solidarity with Denis Morris and Holy Cross at a Pilgrimage aimed at raising awareness and funds for the poor in developing countries. Last year over 500 St. Francis students participated raising an amazing \$45,000.00. This year's theme was We've Got Soul and over 570 St. Francis students and community pulled together raising over \$56,000.00. It was overwhelming for us as parent volunteers to watch over 500 well behaved St. Francis students and staff fill half the Market Square and celebrate Mass together with fellow peers from Denis Morris and Holy Cross.

SLIDE 11 – CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

The Christmas gift drive annually gives our students the opportunity to serve others. Last year St. Francis collected gifts for community care and gift items for 75 bags and baskets that were distributed throughout our region.

SLIDE 12 - TESTIMONIALS

St. Francis is a community school, as you can see by some of the testimonials given.

PAUSE

SLIDE 13 – LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - TERRY

Perhaps you have read some of the letters to the editor in the St. Catharines Standard where members of our community have written in support of St Francis. Terry Rempel wrote “St. Francis has earned and maintained a widely known reputation for excellence.”

SLIDE 14 – LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - MIKE

Mike Bonomi echoes this when he wrote “It is a success in every sense of the word. St. Francis has established a very positive reputation and has achieved high standards both academically and athletically. You simply cannot duplicate or replace that. Instead, the school deserves to build on that success.”

SLIDE 15 – SAVE THE FUTURE OF ST. FRANCIS

Electronically, past and present students of St. Francis are reaching out through facebook. The site Save the Future of St. Francis is 160 members strong and the message is clear. I invite you to go online and read for yourself all the positive comments that past and present students have to say about their school.

SLIDE 16 – SENIOR STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

On December 2, 2008 Senior Staff presented their recommendations to the Niagara Catholic District school board for consideration. The parent community of St. Francis fully supports the recommendation that the Board maintain all 3 Catholic Secondary schools. It was also encouraging to read that the Senior staff recommends continuing to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis. However, we are concerned with the proposed boundary review. If the St. Francis boundaries are minimized then specialized programs currently offered at St. Francis could be at risk. We ask that this point be taken into consideration.

SLIDE 17 – LONG LIVE ST. FRANCIS

In conclusion, Catholic education will continue to thrive in the Niagara Region only with the shared efforts of parents, students, staff and the school board. St. Francis Catholic Secondary School year after year provides an exceptional learning environment which educates its students academically, socially and spiritually. Declining enrollment is not an issue for us. In fact at our grade 8 open house it was literally standing room only. Our future parents and students showed us in overwhelming numbers that despite a black cloud of possible closure they were choosing us, and more importantly choosing Catholic education. We the parent community of St. Francis acknowledges the huge responsibility that you have been given in this decision making. We appreciate this time that you have given us to show you just some of the many reasons why St Francis along with Holy Cross and Denis Morris, is an essential component of Catholic Secondary Education in Niagara.
Thank you



ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Home of the Phoenix

THE CASE FOR ST. FRANCIS

INTRODUCTION

- ◉ Our school mascot the “Phoenix” is a beautiful, mythical bird. It is a symbol of the sun, rebirth, resurrection and immortality, this legendary red “fire bird” was believed to die in its self-made flames and out of the ashes a new Phoenix would rise.

ARC SCHOOL VALUATION

TOTAL RANKINGS FROM ARC REVIEW PROCESS

Total Rankings	
St. Francis	197
Holy Cross	230
Denis Morris	236

Source: St. Catharines Secondary Accommodation Review Committee – Generic School Valuation Template

OBSERVATION: St. Francis falls short, in comparison, by 33-36 points

ARC SCHOOL VALUATION

SO WHERE DOES ST. FRANCIS FALL SHORT

EVALUATION CRITERIA	ST. F	HC	DM
Adequacy of school's internal space to support student learning	2	8	10
Percentage of students in portables	6	10	8
Adequacy of cafeteria space	2	10	4
Condition of school	1	5	4
Cost of upgrades to the facility so that it can meet student learning objectives	1	5	4
Shortfall for St. Francis	28		
Shortfall for HC & DM		2	5

SUMMATION OF ARC

- ◉ St. Francis ranked the lowest on the scoring rubric.
- ◉ St. Francis lost the greatest number of points in only 5 questions out of a total of 44 questions.

EXCELLENCE

- ◉ St. Francis has developed a reputation of academic excellence that supersedes the building.

EQAO MATH RESULTS 2008

- Niagara Catholic students continue to surpass provincial results in testing
- St. Francis achieved **OUTSTANDING** results

GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS, 2007-2008

	St. Francis	Board	Province
ACADEMIC % of Students at Level 3-4	83%	77%	75%
APPLIED % of Students at Level 3-4	52%	29%	34%

Source: <http://www.eqao.com>

EQAO LITERACY RESULTS 2008

- St. Francis achieved OUTSTANDING results

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY RESULTS MARCH 2008

	St. Francis	Board	Province
All First Time Eligible Students	95%	87%	84%

Source: <http://www.eqao.com>

CO-CURRICULAR

- ◉ ALL of St. Francis' co-curricular is run by the staff
- ◉ St. Francis captured 5 zone championships and 4 SOSSA championships in 2007-2008
- ◉ In 2007-2008 St. Francis had 4 teams compete at OFSAA, including a team who has been a 3 year finalist
- ◉ St. Francis' rowing program captured 10 medals at the Canadian rowing championships
- ◉ St. Francis' ski club and badminton club have over 100 participants each
- ◉ Annual musical production

PILGRIMAGE 2008

- Over 570 St. Francis students participated in Pilgrimage
- Approximately 50 staff members and parents also participated
- St. Francis raised over \$56,000

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

- St. Francis students donated and assembled 35 generous gift baskets last Christmas
- St. Francis students donated and assembled 40 small gift bags to RAFT last Christmas
- This Christmas we will continue our past efforts and the students will also donate gifts for young people (ages 13-20) to Community Care

TESTIMONIALS

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT ST. FRANCIS

- St. Francis is a gem of a school.
- Attending St. Francis is like getting a private education for free.
- Best kept secret in the city of St. Catharines.
- I would rather attend St. Francis than my current private school.
- I hear St. Francis has a great reputation.
- When I graduate from Teacher's College my goal is to teach at St. Francis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Catholic education, especially St. Francis, is flourishing.”

Terry Rempel, The Standard, Monday June 23, 2008, pg A6

Terry states: **“St. Francis has earned and maintained a widely known reputation for excellence.”**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Reward the success of St. Francis, don’t penalize it.”

Mike Bonomi, The Standard, Thursday June 19, 2008 pg A10

Mike states: “It is a success in every sense of the word. St. Francis has established a very positive reputation and has achieved high standards both academically and athletically. You simply cannot duplicate or replace that. Instead, the school deserves to build on that success”

SAVE THE FUTURE OF ST. FRANCIS

- ◉ Past and present students of St. Francis are reaching out through Facebook with a site entitled Save the Future of St. Francis.

SENIOR STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Senior Staff Recommendations

- 1. THAT, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitor the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
- 2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
- 3. THAT, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.
- 4. THAT, a St. Catharines Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee be established to review the attendance boundaries for all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines to maximize facility utilization of secondary schools in St. Catharines.

Source: December 2nd, 2008 Staff Report

LONG LIVE ST. FRANCIS



Building on St. Francis' Success in True Phoenix Spirit!

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Niagara Catholic
District School Board

Catholic School Profile

St. Edward

**Principal
Andy Cipro**
2807 - 4th Avenue
Jordan, ON
L0R 1S0

Niagara Catholic District School Board

October 2008

Director of Education

John Crocco

Superintendent

Rob Ciarlo

Catholic Education Centre

427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1
905.735.0240
Fax 905.735.8807

Parish

St. Helen Church
4156 Maple Grove Road
Vineland, ON
905.562.0329
Father Joe

Board Mission

"The Mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, as a Catholic Community of learners, is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Light."

School Mission Statement

"St. Edward School is a Christian community of students, teachers, parents, clergy and community members working in partnership to sustain a learning environment conducive to the realization of an excellent Catholic education for all our learners."

School Motto or Theme

*"We are small in size,
but big in spirit!"*

Who We Are

St. Edward School is located in Jordan, Ontario in the County of Lincoln. The original school was constructed in 1963, housing six classrooms and a small office. A gymnasium, changerooms, three additional classrooms, and a resource office were added in 1967. A renovation in 1995 added two Primary classrooms to the front of the school.

Our students live in rural areas including the two small towns of Vineland and Jordan. The school, located at 2807 4th Avenue, is an integral part of the community. The facilities are utilized by many local community members and organizations for many purposes. We pride ourselves on being the self-proclaimed "best school in the system".

- Grades in school: Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8
- Total enrollment as of September 2007: 183
- Staff includes 8.5 classroom teachers, a educational resource teacher, 3 educational assistants, 1.16 French teachers, a 0.5 library technician, custodian, secretary, and Principal.
- Computers: 25 computers in the lab-classes scheduled 3 times per week to use approved computer programs. Each classroom also has 4 computers, all Internet connected.
- Library Information Centre: a converted classroom is used for the school library. We are continually upgrading and augmenting our supply of quality library books and electronic media.
- Gym: the gymnasium is a facility that is used for the delivery of curriculum programs and extra-curricular & house league activities. The school community utilizes it after school hours for many different sporting events, parish functions and special activities.
- Students participate on a regular basis in many spiritual activities and celebrations. The students have the opportunity to experience Christ's presence through the curriculum, prayer, liturgies and celebrations as well as by performing service projects.

What We Stand For

Community Projects

Staff & students actively live their faith, participating in a number of community projects.

- Kids Helping Kids
- 3 seasonal food drives for Community Cares
- Rankin Cancer Run
- Holy Childhood Walkathon
- 'Out of the Cold' Christmas bags
- MS Read-a-thon

Special Activities/Programs

Some of the special activities & celebrations which we participate in regularly include:

- House League-academics & athletics
- Halloween Activities/ Play Day
- Year long Grade 8 service projects
- Graduation, year end celebrations & awards
- Meet the Teacher & Curriculum Night
- Heart Healthy Schools Program
- Junior Math Club (Gr 4-6)
- Monthly Award Assemblies
- Weekly hot lunch program
- Grade 3 to 8 school choir
- Frequent classroom celebrations
- Christmas Hot Turkey Lunch
- Quality Daily Physical Activity

Ideals, Values/Commitments

- We promote self esteem, respect for life and an appreciation of individual giftedness;
- We provide many opportunities for everyone to contribute to the greater community;
- We assist each child in their individual journey of personal, spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and cultural growth & development;
- We present a challenging learning environment for each student, grounded firmly in the gospel values which fosters a love of learning, aimed at creating lifelong learners;
- We encourage regular communication between home, school, church & the community.

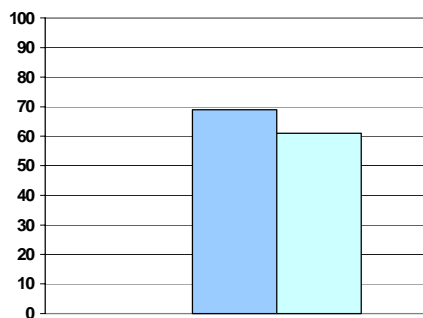
How we are doing

EQAO Primary Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

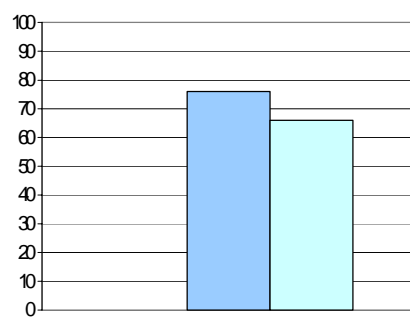
The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating student achievement after province-wide test results showed its Grade 3 students have exceeded the provincial averages in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, once again. In May of 2008 the EQAO Primary Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics was administered across elementary schools in our board. Achievement is described in four levels, where Level 3 is the provincial standard. The EQAO reported the results of school, board and provincial achievement by two methods: Method 1 includes all Grade 3 students and Method 2 includes Grade 3 students excluding students who were exempted or did not complete any work during the assessment. The Niagara Catholic District School Board's commitment to quality Catholic education and to the success and achievement of each individual child entrusted to its care was demonstrated by the fact that 98% of Grade 3 students participated in the Provincial Assessment

Primary Assessment Results

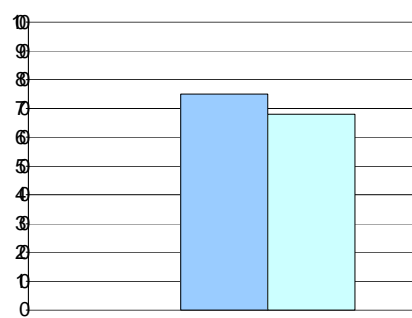
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 1



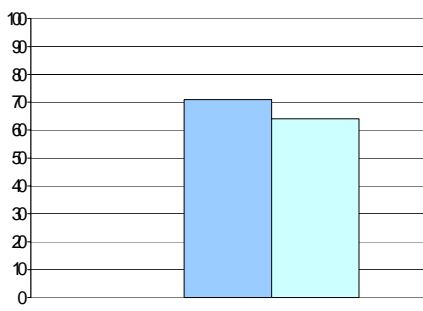
Writing Level 3, 4 Method 1



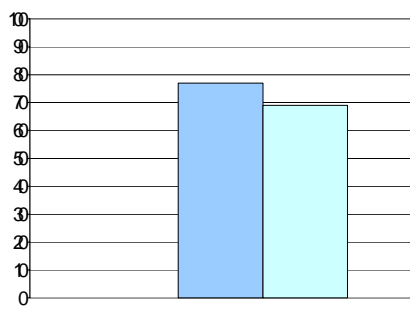
Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 1



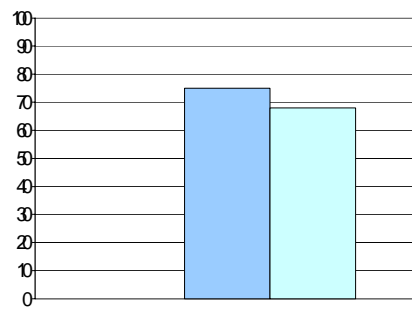
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 2



Writing Level 3, 4 Method 2



Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 2



■ School ■ Board ■ Province

■ School ■ Board ■ Province

■ School ■ Board ■ Province

Levels 3, 4

- 69% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 61% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 94% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 87% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 76% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 66% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 99% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 95% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 75% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 68% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 97% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 93% across the province attained this level.

EQAO has established a minimum number of participating students for the public reporting of achievement results. As a result, schools and boards with very few students participating in Grade 3 and Grade 6 will have no results posted publicly. Similarly, reports for schools and boards with very few participating students in one grade may have no results provided in some sections of their public report. The minimum number of participating students for publication of achievement results is 15. The minimum number of respondents for the release of questionnaire results is six. (EQAO Website, 2008).

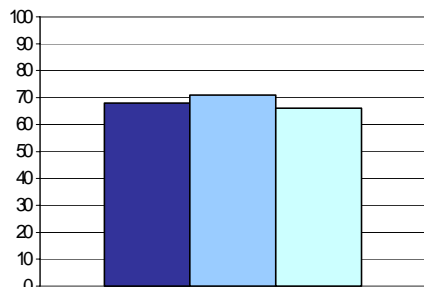
How we are doing

EQAO Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

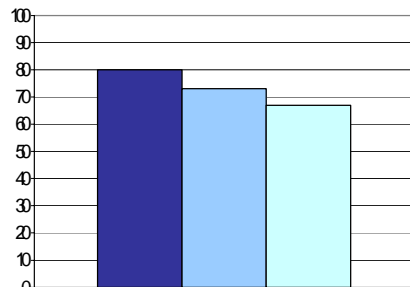
The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating student achievement after province-wide test results showed its Grade 6 students have exceeded the provincial averages in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, once again. In May of 2008 the EQAO Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics was administered across elementary schools in our board. Achievement is described in four levels where Level 3 is the provincial standard. The EQAO reported the results of school, board and provincial achievement by two methods: Method 1 includes all Grade 6 students and Method 2 includes Grade 6 students excluding students who were exempted or did not complete any work during the assessment. The Niagara Catholic District School Board's commitment to quality Catholic education and to the success and achievement of each individual child entrusted to its care was demonstrated by the fact that 98% of Grade 6 students participated in the Provincial Assessment

Junior Assessment Results

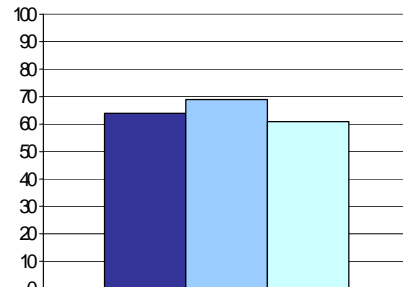
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 1



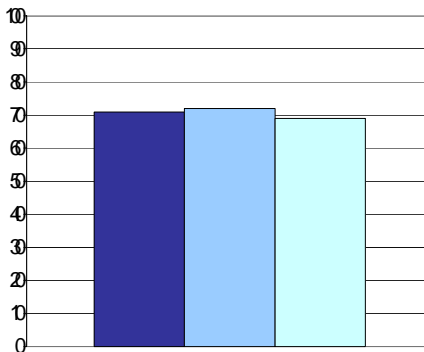
Writing Level 3, 4 Method 1



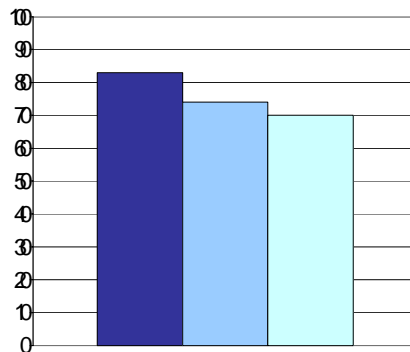
Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 1



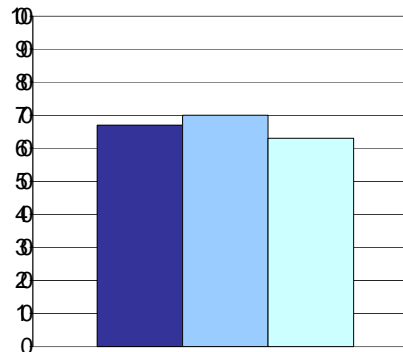
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 2



Writing Level 3, 4 Method 2



Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 2



■ School ■ Board ■ Province

■ School ■ Board ■ Province

■ School ■ Board ■ Province

Levels 3, 4

- 68% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 3, 4 in reading.
- 71% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 66% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 96% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in reading.
- 95% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 90% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 80% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 3, 4 in writing.
- 73% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 67% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 96% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in writing.
- 98% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 95% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 64% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 69% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 61% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 96% of all students at St. Edward School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 95% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 90% across the province attained this level.

Board Planning for continuous Improvement

The Niagara Catholic District School Board Improvement Plan and Individual School Improvement Plans will set SMART Goals as a means to continuous improvement. Each school;s plan will include SMART goals on Faith formation, EQAO targets, Safe Schools, and an additional two goals that are school specific

Our Improvement Plans are dynamic in that they will be closely monitored by both Board and School Improvement Planning Teams, along with Senior Administration, throughout the school year. If required, adjustments will be made to the individual plans to reflect the needs of our students and school communities.

SMART stands for goals that are S – Specific, M – Measurable, A – Attainable, R – Relevant, T – Time Based.

School Goals

Our Catholic Identity

- To increase awareness of Catholic values and moral teachings among staff and students

Curriculum

1. To develop and refine school wide data wall
2. To have all St. Edward school teachers use a 3 prong instructional approach to open response questions so that 75% of all students will use a 3-prong response to Open Response questions by June 2009.
3. To have all St. Edward school teachers teach students to respond to open response math questions by using pictures, numbers and words so that 75% of all students will use pictures, numbers and words in their open response math questions.

School Climate

4. To ensure the safety and well being of all.

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OF FEBRUARY 10, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009.

2.1 *Funding of Capital Projects*

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to continue to limit the annual Facility Renewal Program Expenditures, so the annual unspent amount of \$1,000,000 of the Facility Renewal Program Grants can be deposited in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR-FRP) until the year 2029-30, in order to fund future debenture payments, including \$327,922 for Facility Renewal Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, and to fund additional Facility Renewal Program capital projects, as approved by the Board in the future.

2.2 Financial Reports

2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2009, as presented for information.

2.2.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Fera.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Dekker.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau		✓
Gary Crole		✓
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; Rob Ciarlo, Yolanda Baldasaro, Frank Iannantuono, Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendents of Education; Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development; Christine Graham, Program Officer - Curriculum; Marcel Jacques, Program Officer - Student Support Services; James Woods, Controller of Plant; Jennifer Brailey, Manager of Board Services and Communications; Sherry Morena, Recording Secretary

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. *Disclosure of Interest*

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. *Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 13, 2009*

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. *Speak Out Showcase 2009*

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, introduced the "Speak Out" Showcase for 2009, along with the four students presenting their speeches to the Board.

- ▶ Junior Division - Emma Lorenzi, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
"Too Much Technology"
- ▶ Junior Division - Emily Miskz, Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
"Speeches Throughout History"
- ▶ Catholic Messengers - Lina Abril, St. James Catholic Elementary School
"My New Life in Canada"
- ▶ Catholic Messengers - Mahmoud Nasser, Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls
"Violence Against Children"

Vice-Chairperson Fera thanked the students for sharing their speeches with the Board, and commended them on their outstanding skill and talent. Trustees presented the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" pins.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. *Protocol Between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara*

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, highlighted the executive summary of the revised edition of the Protocol between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services (FACS) and stated that this document clarifies procedures between the Board and FACS.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells welcomed Chris Steven, Executive Director of Family and Children's Services, who presented his comments to the Board.

Director Crocco and Chris Steven signed the revised February 2009 Protocol Between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara.

2. *Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants 2008-2009*

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants 2008-2009 along with a summary of the initiatives for which grants have been received by the Niagara Catholic District School Board School Councils.

3. *Program Department Update - Healthy Schools*

Superintendent Iannantuono welcomed Mike Sheahan, Program Consultant, who presented the Program Department Update - Healthy Schools.

Mr. Sheahan introduced Dr. Stafford Dobbin, Medical Director; Karen Stearne, Executive Director; and Joann Sacco, TITLE, of the Healthy Heart Schools Program. Dr. Dobbin elaborated on the Healthy Heart Schools Program.

4. *Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars: 2009-2010*

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the report on the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars: 2009-2010 and stated that the 2009-2010 school year is a very unique calendar being Labour Day falls on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, which results in a total number of 192 school days between September 8, 2009 and June 30, 2009, two days short of the required minimum of 194 school days.

This upcoming School Year Calendar therefore requires the school year to begin prior to Labour Day. The consultation process, will receive comment on August 31, 2009 as a potential PA Day or the potential of the first day of classes; and September 4, 2009, as an instructional day or a PA Day.

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the report on the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year, and

THAT the potential modified Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year be submitted to the February 24, 2009, Board Meeting for consideration.

CARRIED

5. *Funding of Capital Projects*

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the report on Funding of Capital Projects.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the following resolutions:

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to continue to limit the annual Facility Renewal Program Expenditures, so the annual unspent amount of \$1,000,000 of the Facility Renewal Program Grants can be deposited in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR-FRP) until the year 2029-30, in order to fund future debenture payments, including \$327,922 for Facility Renewal Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, and to fund additional Facility Renewal Program capital projects, as approved by the Board in the future.

CARRIED

6. Financial Reports

6.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

6.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

7. Monthly Updates

7.1 Policy Development Update

The Policy Development Update was presented for information.

7.2 Student Trustees' Update

Ashley McGuire, Student Trustee, gave a brief verbal update on the activities of the Student Senate.

7.3 Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update

The Family of Schools Superintendents gave brief verbal reports highlighting the activities in their schools.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Meeting at 9:30 p.m. to address a timed item and reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on January 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - Section B: Students Trustees Excluded of February 10, 2009.

CARRIED (Item F3)

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on January 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F5 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - Section B: Students Trustees Excluded of February 10, 2009.

CARRIED (Item F5)

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - January 27, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - January 27, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 JK/SK Registration and Open House - February 10, 2009

Director Crocco informed Trustees that today was the first Open House for JK/SK Registration and that early indications from across the system was positive. Registration will continue for the entire month of February.

1.3 February 13, 2009 - PA Day - Elementary

Director Crocco reminded Trustee that this Friday is an Elementary PA Day which will consist of In-School Sessions for all staff on a variety of topics and issues.

1.4 Special Board Meetings - Pupil Accommodation Review - Delegation Submissions

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the following Special Board Meetings which are scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. on:

Tuesday, February 17th, 2009

Saint Michael Catholic High School
for Niagara Falls Elementary

Wednesday, February 18th, 2009 Denis Morris Catholic High School
for St. Catharines Elementary
Monday, February 23rd, 2009 Denis Morris Catholic High School
for St. Catharines Secondary

1.5 *Thursday, February 19, 2009 - Faith Formation Catholic School Council
Notre Dame College School - 7:00 p.m.*

Director Crocco informed Trustees of the Faith Formation Catholic School Council being held on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Father Charles Mosher And Dino Sicoli will be hosting the event title " Live Well! Love Much! Laugh!"

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. *General Discussion to Plan for Future Action*

1.1 *Governance Consultation Paper Submission to Governance Review Committee*

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the February 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 10, 2009.

Approved on the 10th day of March 2009.

Frank Fera
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: FUNDING OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to continue to limit the annual Facility Renewal Program Expenditures, so the annual unspent amount of \$1,000,000 of the Facility Renewal Program Grants can be deposited in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR-FRP) until the year 2029-30, in order to fund future debenture payments, including \$327,922 for Facility Renewal Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, and to fund additional Facility Renewal Program capital projects, as approved by the Board in the future.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

REPORT ON THE FUNDING OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1998, under the New Funding Model, the funding of capital projects was simplified from the inefficient Capital Expenditures Forecast Model to a more dynamic and effective New Pupil Places Program (NPP) and Facility Renewal Program (FRP).

Under the NPP Model, school boards were given a greater amount of responsibility and accountability regarding the planning and implementation of capital projects. Based on the projections of total enrolment and total school capacity, school boards were able to project the capital funding receivable from the Ministry of Education and they were able to plan and implement capital projects without the formal approval of the Ministry of Education.

On June 12, 2006 the Ministry of Education informed School Boards that a new approach was planned regarding the funding of capital projects effective August 31, 2006 and that a number of new capital funding initiatives would be announced in the new future. Since then, over a two year period the Ministry of Education has unveiled a number of capital funding initiatives, which are very prescriptive and which require an extensive number of reviews and approvals by the Ministry of Education. The new capital funding approach included the following capital programs:

- Facility Renewal Capital Projects
- New Pupil Places Capital Projects
- Good Places to Learn Capital Projects
- Primary Class Size Capital Projects
- Prohibitive-to-Repair Capital Projects
- Local Growth Schools Capital Projects
- Funding for Full Day Learning for 4-and-5 Year Olds Capital Projects

Under the new approach, school boards were informed that they were required to obtain approval from the Ministry of Education before entering into any new capital financial commitments. Boards that failed to comply with this requirement would be held responsible for all costs related to the dissolution of contracts.

In order to access the capital funding available under the each capital program, school boards must submit a business case for each project and they must meet a specific set of eligibility criteria and conditions. In addition, schools boards are required to obtain approval for three milestones from the beginning to the end of the each capital project, as follows:

- Milestone 1 – Project Scope Cost and Timeline
Ministry approval is required to transfer funds from reserves (before issuing Tenders)
- Milestone 2 – Results of Tendering Process
Ministry approval is required before awarding of Tenders
- Milestone 3 – Report on Project Completion
Ministry approval is required after the formal approval of the Board

The Ministry of Education emphasized that capital funding provided under a particular capital program could not be transferred to other capital programs. In addition, any expenditure over the approved funding in any capital program would have to be covered by the board.

Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2006

In order to reconcile the old funding approach with the methodology of the new funding initiatives, the Ministry of Education reviewed the capital liquidity of all school boards, using a Capital Liquidity Template (CLT) for all projects completed prior to August 31, 2006 and planned after August 31, 2006, as noted in Appendix A.

The Capital Liquidity Template confirmed the following information:

1. Niagara Catholic completed 21 Capital Projects prior to August 31, 2006 for a total cost of \$81,397,897, including 17 Capital Projects eligible for New Pupil Places (NPP) Grants for a total cost of \$74,352,471 and 4 Capital Projects eligible for Facility Renewal Program (FRP) Grants for a total cost of \$7,045,426, as noted in Appendix B.
2. Niagara Catholic had accumulated a balance of \$16,255,567 in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008, in order to fund future debenture payments. The balance of \$16,255,567 represented an accumulation of unspent NPP Grants amounting to \$7,780,884 and unspent FRP Grants amounting to \$8,474,683, as noted in Appendix C.
3. Niagara Catholic had accumulated a balance of \$4,603,202 in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008, a portion of which was to be used to fund future debenture payments, as noted in Appendix C. The PODR balance was accumulated from the sale of the old St. Vincent de Paul School and Saint Michael High School.
4. Niagara Catholic would continue to receive annual NPP Grants, which will be based on the projections of total enrolment and total school capacity. The Ministry of Education has estimated that these annual NPP Grants, together with the above mentioned reserves (PADR & PODR), will be sufficient to cover the debenture payments related to NPP Capital Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, as noted in Appendix D.
5. Niagara Catholic had made a long term commitment to set aside FRP Grants in the amount of \$1,000,000 per year until the year 2029-30, in order to meet future debenture payments. However, at this time, based on the updated enrolment projections, the Board would be required to set aside only \$329,193 per year until the year 2029-30, in order to support the debentures that related strictly to Capital Projects eligible for FRP Projects (See Appendix E).

Based on the foregoing information and based on updated enrolment data, the Ministry of Education has requested that the board take the following actions:

1. **THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve a resolution to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to ensure that these funds are used to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.
2. **THAT** Niagara Catholic District School Board approve a resolution to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to ensure that these funds are used to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.

Projects Planned After August 31, 2006

In June 2008 the board submitted a Capital Liquidity Template (CLT), which requested funding for 20 capital projects for a total cost of \$71,550,000.

After many meetings and telephone conversations, the Ministry of Education approved the funding for 9 capital projects for a total cost of \$22,550,000, including \$10,250,000 for capital projects eligible for Primary Class Size (PCS) funding and \$12,300,000 for capital projects eligible for Prohibitive to Repair (PTR) funding, as noted in Appendix F.

The Plant Department is now in the process of preparing tender documents for these projects, in order to obtain Milestone 2 Approval from the Ministry of Education.

The Ministry of Education considered the need to fund 5 additional PTR and Growth Schools Projects, which were requested by the Board for a cost of \$29,500,000 (\$4,000,000 for PTR Projects and \$24,500,000 for Growth Schools Projects), as noted in Appendix F.

These projects will be considered for funding during the next few months under the Capital Priorities Template (CPT) Program. The members of Senior Staff will continue to collaborate with Ministry staff, in order to maximize the capital funding under the CPT Program.

The Ministry of Education deferred the funding of 6 additional capital projects related to the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) Process and Other Capital Projects, which were requested by the Board for a cost of \$19,500,000 (\$11,500,000 for ARC Related Projects and \$8,000,000 for Other Capital Projects), as noted in Appendix F.

These capital projects will be deferred until the Board will be able to identify the appropriate funding sources to support these projects. The members of Senior Staff will continue to collaborate with ministry staff, in order to identify additional sources of capital funding to support the construction of these capital projects.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the following resolutions:

1. **THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect the FRP Grants accumulated in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$8,474,683 and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.
2. **THAT** Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to protect a portion of the funds accumulated in the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR) at August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$3,240,000, and to encumber these funds so that they are used only to pay down the capital debt when the debentures come up for renewal.
3. **THAT** Niagara Catholic District School Board direct Senior Staff to continue to limit the annual Facility Renewal Program Expenditures, so the annual unspent amount of \$1,000,000 of the Facility Renewal Program Grants can be deposited in the Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR-FRP) until the year 2029-30, in order to fund future debenture payments, including \$327,922 for Facility Renewal Projects completed prior to August 31, 2006, and to fund additional Facility Renewal Program capital projects, as approved by the Board in the future.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 10, 2009

Ministry of Education

Office of the ADM
Business & Finance Division
20th Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Bureau du sous-ministre adjoint
Division des opérations et des finances
20^e étage, Édifice Mowat
900, rue Bay
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December 19, 2008

Mr. John Crocco
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco,

The Ministry has reviewed your board's capital liquidity template in respect of all capital projects pre- and post-August 31, 2006. We appreciate the cooperation of your staff during the course of this exercise.

Projects Pre-August 31, 2006:

According to our analysis of the board's capital liquidity template, the board currently has a capital debt of \$74.3 million in projects that were tendered pre-August 31, 2006. The Ministry estimates that approximately \$8.6M is not supported by the board's current revenue projections. Based on the information provided in the board's template and discussions with board staff, the board is not eligible for capital debt commitment support. The board was aware of this funding shortfall and had a plan to place approximately \$1 million from its annual renewal grant each year into its renewal reserve in order to cover these costs.

As a result, the Ministry is requiring that the board protect the \$8.47 million currently in its renewal reserve as well as \$3.24 million in its proceeds of disposition reserve to ensure that these funds are available to cover any future shortfall. The Ministry estimates that these reserves will be sufficient to cover the board's current capital debt over the next 25 years. The Ministry is requesting that the board pass a motion to encumber the \$11.71 million to support its pre-August 31, 2006 capital debt.

The Ministry also recommends that the board take the opportunity to use these protected capital reserves to pay down the capital debt when its debentures come up for renewal rather than refinancing.

Projects post-August 31, 2006:

Based on our assessment of your board's projected capital revenues and reserves, including Primary Class Size (PCS) and Prohibitive-to-Repair (PTR), the Ministry confirms that your board has the financial ability to support the costs of all projects in the table below.

Projects	Project Expenditures	Funding Sources			
		PCS	PTR	Board's Working Funds Reserve	Renewal Reserve
St. Mark ES	\$1,500,000	\$1.4M		\$0.06M	
St. Martin ES	\$1,500,000	\$1.4M		\$0.06M	
Canadian Martyrs ES	\$1,500,000	\$1.4M		\$0.06M	
St. Vincent de Paul ES	\$1,150,000	\$1.1M		\$0.07M	
Cardinal Newman ES	\$2,300,000	\$1.4M		\$0.06M	\$0.8M
St. Anthony ES	\$1,150,000	\$1.1M		\$0.07M	
St. Andrew ES	\$1,150,000	\$1.1M		\$0.07M	
Our Lady of Fatima ES	\$6,500,000	\$0.7M	\$5.8M		
St. Joseph ES	\$5,800,000	\$0.4M	\$5.2M	\$0.2M	
Total	\$22,550,000	\$22,550,000			

The Ministry approves your board's transfer from reserves in the amount of \$22,550,000 million to support the above projects.

However, based on the Ministry's analysis of its capital liquidity template, the board has no means to support future capital projects, other than those projects for which it receives new capital funding from the Ministry or has future proceeds of disposition.

The Growth Schools and Prohibitive-to-Repair projects which are currently listed in the board's capital liquidity template will be considered through the Capital Priority Program. The other planned projects in your board's capital liquidity template are being deferred at this time until the board can identify the funding source(s) to support these projects.

While this letter effectively gives approval for the Our Lady of Fatima ES and St. Joseph ES Prohibitive-to-Repair projects, the Ministry would like to remind the board that there are reporting milestones for prohibitive-to-repair projects that require Ministry approval. Please refer to the Memo SB 5: 2008 for details.

The Ministry also notes that the board has allocated substantial Primary Class Size funding to the projects listed above. We would like to remind the board that this funding can only be used to address Primary Class Space needs.

Should you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Nancy Whynot at (416) 325-4030 or via email at Nancy.Whynot@ontario.ca

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Naylor
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business and Finance Division

Niagara Catholic District School Board
Summary of Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2006
Projects Eligible for New Pupil Places Funding

Facility Name	Panel	Status	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST	AMOUNT PAID IN CASH	AMOUNT DEBENTURED
NPP RELATED PROJECTS						
Denis Morris (addition)	S	C	162	\$ 4,865,227	\$ 929,340	\$ 3,935,887
Blessed Trinity (new)	S	C	609	\$ 11,682,675	\$ 1,518,580	\$ 10,164,095
St. Mark Catholic Elementary (new)	E	C	379	\$ 5,945,676	\$ 701,852	\$ 5,243,824
St. George Catholic Elementary (new)	E	C	317	\$ 4,663,676	\$ 7,482	\$ 4,656,194
St Michael Elementary (addition)	E	C	98	\$ 2,252,649	\$ 152,649	\$ 2,100,000
Cardinal Newman Sep S (addition)	E	C	183	\$ 1,603,472	\$ 53,472	\$ 1,550,000
Saint Michael High School (new)	S	C	795	\$ 16,021,924	\$ 521,924	\$ 15,500,000
St Ann Sep S (addition)	E	C	24	\$ 929,363	\$ 79,363	\$ 850,000
St Martin (addition)	E	C	172	\$ 1,756,350	\$ 6,350	\$ 1,750,000
St Joseph Sep S (addition)	E	C	98	\$ 1,308,756	\$ 308,756	\$ 1,000,000
Sacred Heart Sep S (addition)	E	C	98	\$ 1,815,670	\$ 315,670	\$ 1,500,000
Notre Dame College S (addition)	S	C	168	\$ 4,335,491	\$ 2,335,491	\$ 2,000,000
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary Sc. (new)	E	C	440	\$ 6,697,812	\$ 485,812	\$ 6,212,000
Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School (new)	E	C	317	\$ 5,378,426	\$ 868,426	\$ 4,510,000
Assumption (addition)	E	C	135	\$ 1,593,708	\$ 93,708	\$ 1,500,000
St Gabriel Lalemant Sep S (addition)	E	C	74	\$ 1,652,531	\$ 152,531	\$ 1,500,000
Portables Classrooms (one-time cash payment)	E	C	-	\$ 1,849,065	\$ 1,849,065	\$ -
TOTALS FOR NPP PROJECTS prior to AUGUST 31, 2006			4,067	74,352,471	10,380,471	63,972,000

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB
Summary of Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2006
Projects Eligible for Facility Renewal Funding

Facility Name	Panel	Status	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST	AMOUNT PAID IN CASH	AMOUNT DEBENTURED
FRP RELATED PROJECTS						
Saint Paul High School Cafeteria	S	C	-	\$ 1,149,123	\$ 24,123	\$ 1,125,000
Father Fogarty Learning Centre (Cont Ed)	S	C	-	\$ 1,404,234	\$ 4,234	\$ 1,400,000
Lakeshore Catholic H. S. (Track & Field)	S	C	-	\$ 1,477,179	\$ 377,179	\$ 1,100,000
Roof Replacements - Syporex Panels	E	C	-	\$ 3,014,890	\$ 2,014,890	\$ 1,000,000
TOTALS FOR FRP PROJECTS prior to AUGUST 31, 2006			-	7,045,426	2,420,426	4,625,000

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB
Summary of Capital Projects Completed Prior to August 31, 2006
ALL Projects

Facility Name	Panel	Status	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST	AMOUNT PAID IN CASH	AMOUNT DEBENTURED
ALL PROJECTS						
TOTAL for ALL PROJECTS prior to AUGUST 31, 2006				81,397,897	12,800,897	68,597,000

Appendix C

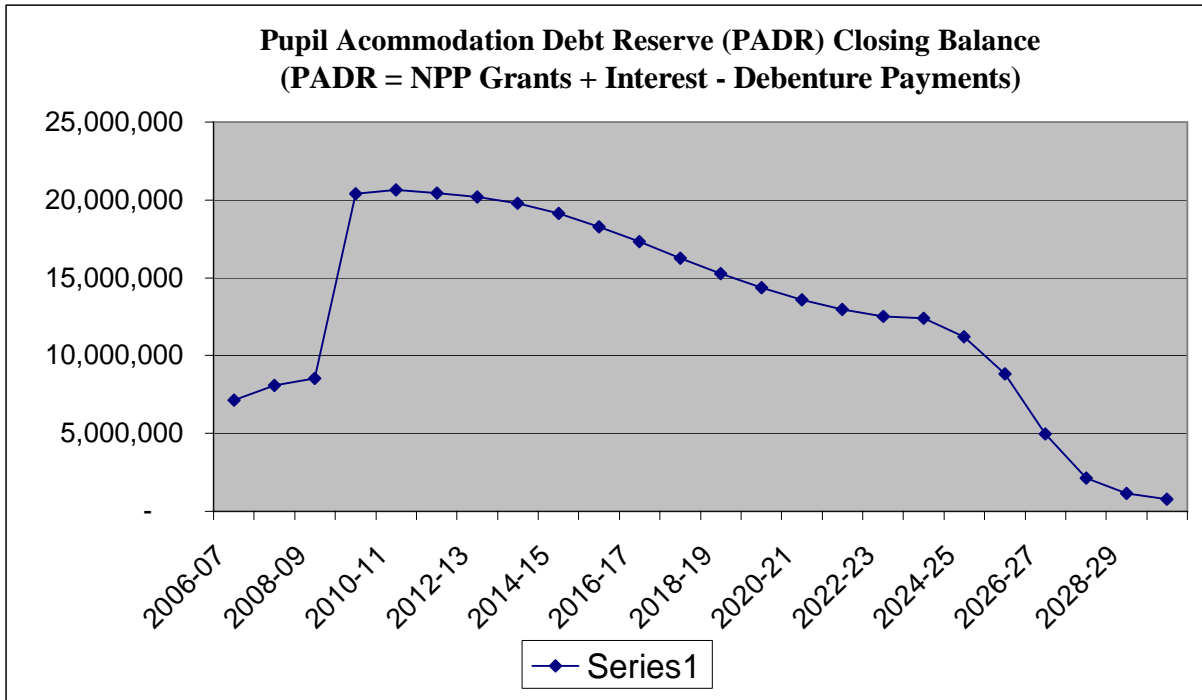
Niagara Catholic DSB (50)
Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR)
Continuity Schedule
For the period from September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2008

Description	TOTAL PADR Reserve	Amount Relating to NPP Grants	Amount Relating to FRP Grants
Balance at September 1, 2003	14,727,166	11,834,857	2,892,309
Transfers to the Reserve	9,306,137	5,709,018	3,597,119
Earnings	321,326	102,673	218,653
Transfer from the Reserve	12,002,069	9,439,813	2,562,256
Balance at August 31, 2004	12,352,560	8,206,735	4,145,825
Balance at September 1, 2004	12,352,560	8,206,735	4,145,825
Transfers to the Reserve	20,201,166	16,122,010	4,079,156
Earnings	346,100	231,993	114,107
Transfer from the Reserve	20,201,166	17,139,931	3,061,235
Balance at August 31, 2005	12,698,660	7,420,807	5,277,853
Balance at September 1, 2005	12,698,661	7,420,807	5,277,853
Transfers to the Reserve	18,977,076	15,085,713	3,891,363
Earnings	434,996	256,953	178,043
Transfer from the Reserve	18,977,076	15,630,300	3,346,776
Balance at August 31, 2006	13,133,657	7,133,174	6,000,483
Balance at September 1, 2006	13,133,657	7,133,174	6,000,483
Transfers to the Reserve	19,533,319	15,273,975	4,259,344
Earnings	556,398	331,398	225,000
Transfer from the Reserve	18,443,420	15,184,076	3,259,344
Balance at August 31, 2007	14,779,954	7,554,471	7,225,483
Balance at September 1, 2007	14,779,954	7,554,471	7,225,483
Transfers to the Reserve	18,627,746	15,023,835	3,603,911
Earnings	538,125	288,125	250,000
Transfer from the Reserve	17,690,258	15,085,547	2,604,711
Balance at August 31, 2008	16,255,567	7,780,884	8,474,683

Niagara Catholic DSB (50)
Proceeds of Disposition Reserve (PODR)
Continuity Schedule
For the period from September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2008

Balance at September 1, 2003	60,121
Transfers to the Reserve (SVDP, SMHS)	4,029,124
Earnings	513,957
Transfer from the Reserve	-
Balance at August 31, 2008	4,603,202

Niagara Catholic District School Board
Capital Liquidity Summary - Projects up to Aug. 31, 2006



Projected Enrolment ELEM	Projected Capacity ELEM	Projected Enrolment SEC	Projected Capacity SEC	School Year	Pupil Accommodation Debt Reserve (PADR)				
					Opening Balance	Annual NPP Grants	Annual Interest	Debenture Payments	Closing Balance
14,962	13,878	8,303	5,292	2006-07	7,133,174	5,733,511	556,398	5,355,618	8,067,465
14,775	13,878	8,327	5,292	2007-08	8,067,465	5,664,205	161,349	5,355,618	8,537,401
14,398	13,878	8,413	5,292	2008-09	8,537,401	17,065,618	170,748	5,355,618	20,418,149
14,122	13,878	8,472	5,292	2009-10	20,418,149	5,162,582	408,363	5,355,618	20,633,476
13,923	13,878	8,296	5,292	2010-11	20,633,476	4,664,971	412,670	5,269,659	20,441,458
13,915	13,878	8,084	5,292	2011-12	20,441,458	4,328,867	408,829	4,975,179	20,203,974
13,773	13,878	7,988	5,292	2012-13	20,203,974	4,138,741	404,079	4,975,179	19,771,616
13,778	13,878	7,843	5,292	2013-14	19,771,616	3,915,076	395,432	4,960,353	19,121,771
13,825	13,878	7,715	5,292	2014-15	19,121,771	3,717,634	382,435	4,960,353	18,261,488
13,879	13,878	7,670	5,292	2015-16	18,261,488	3,649,357	365,230	4,960,353	17,315,721
13,961	13,878	7,553	5,292	2016-17	17,315,721	3,562,062	346,314	4,960,353	16,263,744
14,084	13,878	7,496	5,292	2017-18	16,263,744	3,613,906	325,275	4,944,140	15,258,785
14,237	13,878	7,470	5,292	2018-19	15,258,785	3,747,659	305,176	4,944,140	14,367,480
14,389	13,878	7,443	5,292	2019-20	14,367,480	3,878,732	287,350	4,944,140	13,589,421
14,569	13,878	7,424	5,292	2020-21	13,589,421	4,053,963	271,788	4,944,140	12,971,033
14,771	13,878	7,403	5,292	2021-22	12,971,033	4,251,108	259,421	4,944,140	12,537,421
14,978	13,878	7,450	5,292	2022-23	12,537,421	4,558,825	250,748	4,944,140	12,402,855
14,978	14,298	7,400	5,640	2023-24	12,402,855	3,483,514	248,057	4,944,140	11,190,286
14,978	14,039	7,400	6,563	2024-25	11,190,286	2,344,368	223,806	4,944,140	8,814,319
14,978	14,606	7,400	7,080	2025-26	8,814,319	922,309	176,286	4,944,140	4,968,775
14,978	15,224	7,400	7,354	2026-27	4,968,775	83,142	99,375	3,008,449	2,142,843
14,978	15,390	7,400	7,373	2027-28	2,142,843	54,019	42,857	1,105,701	1,134,019
14,978	15,426	7,400	7,862	2028-29	1,134,019	7,703	22,680	379,635	784,767
14,978	15,405	7,400	8,035	2029-30	784,767	-	15,695	379,635	420,827

* Includes encumbrance of \$11,714,683 (\$8,474,683+\$3240,000)

Appendix E

**Niagara Catholic DSB
Facility Renewal Program (FRP) Grants Committed to fund annual debenture
payments for FRP capital projects completed prior to August 31, 2006**

Year	Projected Renewal Grant *	Committed Renewal Amount				Committed Percentage
		Debentures for Renewal	Internally Committed for new spaces	Other	Total	
2006-07	\$ 3,633,000	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2007-08	\$ 3,599,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2008-09	\$ 3,580,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2009-10	\$ 3,565,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2010-11	\$ 3,534,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2011-12	\$ 3,513,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2012-13	\$ 3,494,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2013-14	\$ 3,481,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2014-15	\$ 3,472,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2015-16	\$ 3,472,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2016-17	\$ 3,467,265	\$ 327,922	\$ -		\$ 327,922	9%
2017-18	\$ 3,471,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2018-19	\$ 3,480,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2019-20	\$ 3,488,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2020-21	\$ 3,500,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2021-22	\$ 3,512,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2022-23	\$ 3,532,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2023-24	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2024-25	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2025-26	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2026-27	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 327,193	\$ -		\$ 327,193	9%
2027-28	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 241,699	\$ -		\$ 241,699	7%
2028-29	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 241,699	\$ -		\$ 241,699	7%
2029-30	\$ 3,527,265	\$ 241,699	\$ -		\$ 241,699	7%
2030-31	\$ 3,527,265	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%
2031-32	\$ 3,527,265	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%
2032-33	\$ 3,527,265	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0%

Appendix F

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB

Summary of Capital Projects Planned after August 31, 2006

Capital Funding Approved by the Ministry of Education under PCS and PTR Programs

Facility Name	Panel	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Proposed PRIMARY CLASS SIZE PROJECTS (Pending Board Approval)			
St. Mark ELEM (4 classroom addition and renovations, replacing 4 portables)	E	92	\$ 1,500,000
St. Martin ELEM (4 classroom addition and renovations, replacing 4 portables)	E	92	\$ 1,500,000
Canadian Martyrs ELEM (4 classroom addition and renovation, replacing 5 portables)	E	92	\$ 1,500,000
St. Vincent de Paul ELEM (3 classromm addition and renovations, replacing 4 portables)	E	69	\$ 1,150,000
Cardinal Newman ELEM (4 classroom addition and renovations, replacing 5 portables)	E	92	\$ 2,300,000
St. Anthony ELEM (3 classroom addition and renovations, replacing 4 portables)	E	69	\$ 1,150,000
St. Andrew ELEM (3 classroom addition and renovations, replacing 1 portables)	E	69	\$ 1,150,000
			\$ 10,250,000
PROHIBITIVE TO REPAIR PROJECTS			
O.L. Fatima ELEM GBY (PTR - See Project Descriptions, replacing 3 portables)	E	343	\$ 6,500,000
St. Joseph ELEM GBY (PTR - See Project Descriptions, replacing 2 portables)	E	273	\$ 5,800,000
			\$ 12,300,000
TOTAL Funding approved by the Ministry of Education after AUGUST 31, 2006		1,191	22,550,000

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB

Summary of Capital Projects Planned after August 31, 2006

Capital Funding to be considered by the Ministry of Education under Capital Priorities Program

Facility Name	Panel	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST
PROHIBITIVE TO REPAIR PROJECTS			
Our Lady of Victory Sr. ELEM (NEW PTR ASK addition + alteration)	E	230	\$ 4,000,000
			\$ 4,000,000
LOCAL GROWTH PROJECTS			
Blessed Trinity SEC (Growth School Request 23 classroom addition - replacing 24 portables)	S	491	\$ 11,000,000
Saint Michael SEC (Growth School Request 6 classroom addition - replacing 10 portables)	S	210	\$ 3,000,000
Sacred Heart ELEM (Growth School Request 8 classroom addition + replacing 2 portables)	E	184	\$ 3,000,000
Unnamed ELEM School in Niagara Falls (Growth School Request - new school)	E	500	\$ 8,500,000
			\$ 25,500,000
TOTAL Funding considered by the Ministry of Education under the Capital Priorities Program		1,615	29,500,000

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB

Summary of Capital Projects Planned after August 31, 2006

Capital Funding to be deferred by the Ministry of Education pending identification of funding sources

Facility Name	Panel	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Potential Pupil Accommodation Review Projects			
to be considered and approved by the Board			\$ 11,500,000
Potential Other Capital Projects			
to be considered and approved by the Board			\$ 8,000,000
TOTAL to be deferred by the Ministry of Education pending identification of funding sources		-	19,500,000

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DSB

Summary of Capital Projects Planned after August 31, 2006

ALL Projects

Facility Name	Panel	Estimated Capacity	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Total of ALL Projects		2,806	71,550,000

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
JANUARY 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 30, 2009, as presented for information.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2009**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2009 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 10, 2009

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS	
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF:	JANUARY, 2009
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A) 41,835,208.71
OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS	13,801,201
2. OTHER GRANTS (EPO, O.E.Y.C.)	457,600
3. INTEREST REVENUE	58,102
4. MUNICIPAL TAXES	236,620
5. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER	1,389,178
6. CHARITABLE DONATIONS	19,384
7. GOVERNMENT REBATES (GST 68% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)	242,025
8. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS))	239,481
9. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS	
- Reimbursements of Employee Benefits	10,679
- Green Shield Refund	0
10. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)	0
11. CAPITAL LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS AND LOAN ADVANCE	(B) 16,454,271
OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)	(16,771,405)
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(1,085,395)
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(478,530)
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS	(121,488)
5. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 5 TRUST ACCOUNTS	(55,109)
6. OTHER DEBITS	(26,972)
7. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(200,988)
8. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(109,679)
TOTAL OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS	(C) (18,849,566)
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	A + B - C = D (D) 39,439,913

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT :	JANUARY, 2009			
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. GPL1 Loan 25 YR.	(13,366,968.34)			(13,366,968.34)
2. GPL2 Loan 25 YR.	(10,241,490.45)			(10,241,490.45)
3. Capital Loan 20 YR.	0.00			0.00
4. Capital Loan 25 YR.	0.00			0.00
5. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(2,373,000.00)			(2,373,000.00)
6. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(3,910,000.00)			(3,910,000.00)
7. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	(21,421,419.59)			(21,421,419.59)
8. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	(22,927,919.85)			(22,927,919.85)
9. Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	(9,151,289.65)			(9,151,289.65)
10 Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(8,393,736.98)		109,678.99	(8,284,057.99)
Total Debentures & Capital Loans	(91,785,824.86)	0.00	(109,678.99)	(91,676,145.87)

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
JANUARY 31, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009, as presented for information.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT JANUARY 31, 2009**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Financial Statements is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Report on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2009 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: February 10, 2009

Appendix A

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT JANUARY 31, 2009

ACCOUNT DISCRIPTION	THIS YEAR					LAST YEAR		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL	\$ AVAIL	COMMITTED	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL
REVENUE								
REVENUE	-96,963,609	-221,457,181	56.2%	-124,493,572	0	-93,524,563	-212,646,964	56.0%
TOTAL REVENUE	-96,963,609	-221,457,181	56.2%	-124,493,572	0	-93,524,563	-212,646,964	56.0%
EXPENDITURES								
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	3,141,129	7,168,736	56.2%	4,027,607	329,437	2,961,331	6,606,215	55.2%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	43,937,851	103,557,494	57.6%	59,619,643	492,228	40,095,961	97,928,567	59.1%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	26,330,572	62,845,816	58.1%	36,515,244	386,590	24,299,900	58,818,923	58.7%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	2,149,688	5,986,817	64.1%	3,837,129	64,345	2,000,209	5,362,378	62.7%
PLANT OPERATIONS	6,730,007	16,683,203	59.7%	9,953,196	173,706	6,616,860	16,408,479	59.7%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	1,309,538	3,358,014	61.0%	2,048,476	129,160	1,304,540	3,034,096	57.0%
TRANSPORTATION	4,363,580	10,779,861	59.5%	6,416,281	5	3,572,315	9,177,427	61.1%
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	3,603,787	11,077,240	67.5%	7,473,453	383,948	6,700,426	15,310,879	56.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	91,566,152	221,457,181	58.7%	129,891,029	1,959,419	87,551,542	212,646,964	58.8%

PREPARED BY : William Tumath
Finance Department

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS: 2009-2010

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS – 2009-2010

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The *Education Act, Regulation 304 - School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days* outlines the requirements and timelines for preparing and submission of school year calendars to the Ministry of Education for approval.

The 2009-2010 school year is a very unique calendar. From September 1st, 2009-June 30th, 2010 there a total of 196 possible school days. This coming September 2009, Labour Day falls on Monday, September 7th which ends up with a total number of school days between September 8th and June 30th, 2010 equaling 192 school days.

Within this total, elementary and secondary schools must have a minimum of 194 school days of which two (2) days must be designated as professional activity days to focus on provincial education priorities and up to four (4) extra days that may be designated by the Board as professional activity days. Secondary schools may have a maximum of ten (10) instructional days as examination days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days.

This upcoming School Year Calendar therefore requires the school year to begin prior to Labour Day. The consultation process, received comments on all aspects of the 2009-2010 school year calendar.

Consultation Process

The 2009-2010 School Year Calendar Committee met on January 29th, 2009 to discuss and review draft calendars and the consultation process. The School Year Calendar Committee met again on February 19th, 2009 to review feedback resulting from a comprehensive system consultation process and provided recommendations for the Elementary and Secondary 2009-2010 School Year Calendar to Administrative Council.

Members of the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar Committee are:

Frank Iannantuono	Superintendent (Chair)
Yolanda Baldasaro	Superintendent
Elizabeth Davey	Elementary Principal
Joseph Zaroda	Secondary Principal
Khayyam Syne	Administrator of Staff Development

Christine Graham	Program Officer-Curriculum
Marcel Jacques	Program Officer-Student Support Services
Marie Balanowski	Niagara Elementary Unit
Scott McAvoy	Niagara Secondary Unit
Jo-Ann Morris	Niagara Secondary Unit
Laurel Allison	Catholic Regional School Council
Pat Vernal	Niagara Occasional Teachers

The consultation process, which began on February 3rd, 2009 provided copies of the elementary and secondary draft calendars to all Elementary and Secondary Principals, Vice-Principals, Catholic School Council Chairs, Regional Catholic School Council, OECTA Elementary and Secondary Presidents, CUPE President, Student Support Services, Program Departments and the Student Senate for feedback by February 19th, 2009.

Feedback from the consultation process resulted in approximately a 40% rate of response. Feedback was wide ranging throughout the system with most of the dialogue focusing on the start up to the school year, the use of Professional Activity Days and the end of the school year. In addition to the School Year Calendar Committee reviewing feedback received by February 19th, 2009, Administrative Council also reviewed the feedback along with the 2009-2010 School Year Calendar Committee recommendations for a Niagara Catholic Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendar for 2009-2010.

In the final analysis, the Administrative Council considered all feedback and is recommending a school year calendar which would best meet the needs of our students and their achievement and one which is closely aligned for all students throughout the Niagara Region.

Summary of the Attached Calendars

Attached to this Board Report are Appendix A – Proposed Elementary School Year Calendar for 2009-2010 and Appendix B – Proposed Secondary School Year Calendar for 2009-2010.

Highlights of the Proposed School Year Calendars for 2009-2010

Professional Activity Days

In accordance with the *Education Act, Regulation 304 - School Year Calendar*, the following six (6) days have been identified as Professional Activity Days for 2009-2010. Accompanying activities referenced as goals, with the possibility of alteration upon communication regarding the actual designated provincial priorities from the Ministry of Education. The asterisk (*) beside the Professional Activity Days are designated to focus on provincial education priorities as required by the Ministry of Education.

Proposed Elementary Professional Activity Days

Friday, October 9th, 2009 – Developing and Implementing Board and School Improvement Plans and Individual Education Plans that focus on equity of outcomes.*

Friday, November 13th, 2009 – Assessment and Evaluation: Elementary Report Card Writing

Friday, February 12th, 2010 – Differentiating Instructional strategies and resources that are responsive to students' learning needs.*

Wednesday, April 21st, 2010 – Developing skills for teacher inquiry and reflective practice.*

Friday, May 21st, 2010 – Niagara Catholic District School Board Faith Day

Wednesday, June 30th, 2010 – Communicating Student Achievement to Engage Parents and Achievement Goal Setting for 2010-2011*

Proposed Secondary Professional Activity Days

Friday, October 9th, 2009 – Developing and Implementing Board and School Improvement Plans and Individual Education Plans that focus on equity of outcomes.*

Friday, November 13th, 2009 – Developing and implementing strategies to close the gaps in mathematical literacy.*

Friday, February 12th, 2010 - Differentiating Instructional strategies and resources that are responsive to students’ learning needs. *

Friday, May 21st, 2010 – Niagara Catholic District School Board Faith Day

Tuesday, June 29th and Wednesday, June 30th, 2010 – Communicating Student Achievement to Engage Parents and Achievement Goal Setting for 2010-2011*

Highlights of the Proposed School Year Calendars for 2009-2010- continued

Secondary Examination Days

Semester 1 – Friday, January 25th, 2010 to Friday, January 29th, 2010

Semester 2 – Tuesday, June 22nd, 2010 to Monday, June 28th, 2010

Board and Civic Holidays

Labour Day	Monday, September 7 th , 2009
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12 th , 2009
Christmas Break	Monday, December 21 st , 2009 to Friday, January 1 st , 2010
Family Day	Monday, February 15 th , 2010
March Break	Friday, March 12 th to Friday, March 19 th , 2010 (ten month employees only)
Good Friday	Friday, April 2 nd , 2010
Easter Monday	Monday, April 5 th , 2010
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24 th , 2010
Canada Day	Thursday, July 1 st , 2010

To comply with the timelines outlined in *Regulation 304 - School Year Calendar*, school boards are required to submit Board approved **regular** school year calendars to the Ministry of Education by May 1st, 2009. Upon approval from the Ministry the Niagara Catholic community will be informed of the School Year Calendar for 2009-2010.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: February 24, 2009

Elementary School Year Calendar – 2009-2010
Appendix A

Board Name Niagara CDSB (B67156)			
Calendar Title [2009-42] Copy: Niagara Catholic	Panel Elementary	Calendar Type Regular	Last Revised Feb 19, 2009
Start of school year Sep 1, 2009	End of school year Jun 30, 2010	Status Not yet submitted for ministry approval	
Description Regular Calendar			

Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Exam days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31					0	0	0
September		1	2	3	4 B	7 H	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30			0	20	0
October				1	2	5	6	7	8	9 P	12 H	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	1	20	0
November	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13 P	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	20	0
December		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 H	28 B	29 B	30 B	31 B		0	14	0
January					1 H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0	20	0
February	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15 H	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26						1	18	0
March	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 B	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			0	17	0
April				1	2 H	5 H	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21 P	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	1	19	0
May	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21 P	24 H	25	26	27	28	31					1	19	0
June		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30 P			1	21	0
July				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	0	0
Total															6	188	0											

Legend

P-Professional Activity Day; E-Scheduled Exam Day; B-Board Designated Holiday; H-Statutory Holiday; / -Half Day



Ministry of
Education

Ontario School Year Calendar System

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Board Name Niagara CDSB (B67156)			
Calendar Title [2009-43] Niagara Catholic	Panel Secondary	Calendar Type Regular	Last Revised Feb 20, 2009
Start of school year Sep 1, 2009	End of school year Jun 30, 2010	Status Not yet submitted for ministry approval	
Description Regular Calendar			

Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Exam days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31					0	0	0
September		1	2	3	4 B	7 H	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30			0	20	0
October				1	2	5	6	7	8	9 P	12 H	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	1	20	0
November	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13 P	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	20	0
December		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 H	28 B	29 B	30 B	31 B		0	14	0
January					1 H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25 E	26 E	27 E	28 E	29 E	0	15	5
February	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15 H	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26						1	18	0
March	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 B	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			0	17	0
April				1	2 H	5 H	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	20	0
May	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21 P	24 H	25	26	27	28	31					1	19	0
June		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22 E	23 E	24 E	25 E	28 E	29 P	30 P			2	15	5
July				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	0	0
Total												6	178	10														

Legend

P-Professional Activity Day; E-Scheduled Exam Day; B-Board Designated Holiday; H-Statutory Holiday; / -Half Day

Schools which will use this calendar:

School	Town or City	School	Town or City
No schools have been assigned to use this calendar			

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TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The report on the
Staff Development Department
Professional Development Opportunities
is presented for information.

Prepared by: Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Presented by: Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: February 24, 2009



REPORT TO THE BOARD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Department of Staff Development, among its many roles acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments in ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities that will be occurring during the period February 23, 2009 through, March 31, 2009.

Monday, February 23, 2009

Ontario Leadership Strategy (OLS) Mentors

- Workshop given by the Administrator of Staff Development to NCDSB OLS Mentors regarding the roll-out of the OLS Plan to Principals and Vice-Principals who are in their first two years of being appointed to the role.

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Labs Without labs In-Service

- Workshop for Teachers of the Intermediate Grades on the ability to perform laboratory experiments via e-learning.

Friday, February 27, 2009

Principal; Vice-Principal and English as a Second Language (ESL) Teachers, Joint NCDSB and DSBN English language Learners (ELL) Symposium and Workshop

- Keynote address and workshop given by Niagara Catholic and DSBN Program staff regarding the Ministry of Education expectations of the "Many Roots, Many Voices" program.

New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) Faith Formation

- Workshop given by the Administrator of Staff Development and Board Adult Faith Animators for Elementary and Secondary Teachers enrolled in the Ministry of Education's mandatory New Teacher Induction Program, on the vocation of being a culminating in the celebration of the Eucharist.

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Gr. 7-10 Assessment and Evaluation (Family of Schools)

- Workshop given by Board Program Department staff for Grade 7 and 8 Teachers as well of Teachers of Grades 9 and 10 English and Mathematics on Differentiated Instruction (DI) as a follow-up to program led by Karen Hume in February.

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

Gr. 7-10 Assessment and Evaluation (Family of Schools)

- Workshop given by Board Program Department staff for Grade 7 and 8 Teachers as well of teachers of Grades 9 and 10 English and Mathematics on Differentiated Instruction (DI) as a follow-up to program led by Karen Hume in February.

Elementary and Secondary French as a Second Language (FSL) Teacher In-Service (Group 1)

- Workshop given by Board Program Department staff to those teachers of FSL who are new to the "Tell me More" Program and those who require a refresher course.

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Principals and Vice-Principals' Ontario Leadership Strategy (OLS) In-Service

- The first in a series of three workshops given by the Administrator of Staff Development and Board OLS Mentors to those Elementary and Secondary Principals and Vice-Principals who are in their first two years of being appointed to the role, outlining the Board's OLS Plan and Mentoring program.

Integrating the Arts with Religion In-Service

- Workshop given by Program Department staff for Elementary teachers on the most effective strategies of complementing their classroom curriculum and environment through the integration of the Arts and Religious Education.

Elementary and Secondary French as a Second Language (FSL) Teacher In-Service (Group 2)

- Workshop given by Board Program Department staff to those teachers of FSL who are new to the "Tell me More" Program and those who require a refresher course.

Friday, March 6, 2009

Welcome to Kindergarten Teleconference

- Workshop given by Ministry of Education staff to school administrators and teachers who are new to the Welcome to Kindergarten program, on its requirements.

Monday, March 9, 2009

Gr. 7-10 Assessment and Evaluation (Family of Schools)

- Workshop given by Board Program Department staff for Grade 7 and 8 Teachers as well of Teachers of Grades 9 and 10 English and Mathematics on Differentiated Instruction (DI) as a follow-up to program led by Karen Hume in February.

Early Years Teachers' (JK & K) Mathematics In-Service

- Workshop given by the Program Department Staff on the introduction of Mathematics Curriculum in the Early Years.

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Principals and Early Years Teacher Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK) Program – Planning Session

- Follow-up workshop for participants in Ministry of Education teleconference to plan program for subsequent Parent training.

Friday, March 13, 2009

Custodial Staff In-Service

- The first in a series of workshops given by Plant Department personnel and outside agencies to custodial staff in both the Elementary and Secondary panels related to efficiencies, safety and new techniques.

Monday, March 16, 2009

Custodial Staff In-Service

- The second in a series of workshops given by Plant Department personnel and outside agencies to custodial staff in both the Elementary and Secondary panels related to efficiencies, safety and new techniques.

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Custodial Staff In-Service

- The third in a series of workshops given by Plant Department personnel and outside agencies to custodial staff in both the Elementary and Secondary panels related to efficiencies, safety and new techniques.

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Custodial Staff In-Service

- The fourth in a series of workshops given by Plant Department personnel and outside agencies to custodial staff in both the Elementary and Secondary panels related to efficiencies, safety and new techniques.

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Teaching Drama and Dance in the Elementary Panel

- Workshop given by Program Department staff to teachers in the Elementary Panel on effective strategies and motivational techniques for making Drama and Dance more appealing to students.

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Teacher Learning Critical Pathway In-Service for Elementary Principals Part 2

- The second of two workshops given by Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat to Elementary Principals and two teacher representatives from each Elementary school on the (Teacher Learning Critical Pathway) model used to organize actions for teaching and student learning.

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

“Extra-ordinary Service” Training Session for Secretarial Staff

- An interactive workshop given by a Keynote speaker and Board staff for all secretarial staff, designed to build on the high level of success already enjoyed by this tremendously important group of staff as they perform the myriad tasks necessary in dealing with students, parents, staff and the public in general.

The Report on Staff Development - Professional
Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared By: Robert Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Presented By: Robert Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Approved By: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: February 24, 2009

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: LONG TERM FINANCING OF APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECTS
COMPLETED PRIOR TO AUGUST 31, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Borrowing By-Law and Related Documents with respect to the issue of long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed prior to August 31, 2008 for a total amount of \$4,683,110, as follows:

By-Law Number 2009-A1 - A By-Law to authorize a Loan from the Ontario Financing Authority in the principal amount of \$4,683,110, for the long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed up to August 31, 2008, to be amortized over 25 years at the interest rate of 5.602%, repayable in semi-annual payments of \$166,736.12.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: February 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD FEBRUARY 24, 2009

REPORT ON LONG TERM FINANCING OF APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECTS COMPLETED PRIOR TO AUGUST 31, 2008

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the last three years, the Niagara Catholic District School Board received the following funding allocations for the upgrading of schools under the Good Places to Learn Capital Program:

- \$17,271,466 under the Good Places to Learn Program (Stage 1)
- \$7,079,291 under the Good Places to Learn Program (Stage 2)
- \$5,987,964 under the Good Places to Learn Program (Stage 3).

The Ministry of Education requested that school boards use short-term financing to fund their GPL Projects and Other Capital Projects, until the related financial commitments could be consolidated into a long-term financing vehicle.

In November 2006, all schools boards were informed that the Ministry of Education (“Ministry”), along with the Ontario Financing Authority (“OFA”) and the Ontario Infrastructure Projects Corporation (“OIPC”) were going to assist school boards in converting the short-term financing for GPL Projects into long-term financing for all school boards. The OFA is a Crown Agency established under the Capital Investment Plan Act, 1993. The OIPC is also a Crown Agency, which will be assisting the OFA in the administration of the long-term financing.

Under this initiative, The OFA will make 25-year amortizing term financing available to all school boards for GPL Projects and Other Capital Projects approved under a prescribed Capital Program. The maximum principal amount of the long term financing will be the total amount of funding allocated to the Board under a prescribed Capital Program. Standard documentation will be prepared by the OFA for the use of all school boards and individual financing terms will not be negotiated. The Ministry will require all school boards to participate in this long-term financing arrangement.

It is important to note that all school boards will receive the appropriate annual capital grants from the Ministry of Education, in order to cover all interest and principal payments associated with this long-term financing.

In November 2006 the Niagara Catholic District School Board participated in the first issue of the GPL financing for a total of \$14,000,000 for GPL Projects, which were completed up to August 31, 2006. This issue of long term financing was amortized over 25 years at a rate of 4.56% and was repayable in semi-annual payments of \$472,147.16.

In February 2008 the Niagara Catholic District School Board participated in the second issue of the GPL financing for a total of \$10,350,737 (\$3,371,446 for Stage 1 and \$7,079,291 for Stage 2) for GPL Projects, which were completed up to August 31, 2007. This issue of long term financing will be amortized over 25 years at a rate of 4.90% and will be repayable in semi-annual payments of \$362,839.61.

In March 2009 the Niagara Catholic District School Board will be participating in the third issue of the GPL financing for a total of \$4,683,110 for GPL Projects (Stage 3), which were completed up to August 31, 2008. This issue of long term financing will be amortized over 25 years at a rate of 5.062% and will be repayable in semi-annual payments of \$166,736.12.

The legal firm of BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP has now prepared the relevant documents, which must be executed before March 2, 2009 and which are hereby attached for the review of the Trustees, as follows:

- Appendix A - Certificate of the Director of Education
- Appendix B - Certificate of the Treasurer
- Appendix C - By-Law #2009-A1
- Appendix D - Loan Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the borrowing By-Law and Related Documents with respect to the issue of long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed prior to August 31, 2008 for a total amount of \$4,683,110, as follows:

By-Law Number 2009-A1 - A By-Law to authorize a Loan from the Ontario Financing Authority in the principal amount of \$4,683,110, for the long term financing of Good Places to Learn Projects (Stage 3) completed up to August 31, 2008, to be amortized over 25 years at the interest rate of 5.062%, repayable in semi-annual payments of \$166,736.12.

Prepared By: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Presented By: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Approved By: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: February 24, 2009

CERTIFICATE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

TO: Ontario Financing Authority
AND TO: BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP

IN THE MATTER OF a loan agreement dated March 13, 2009 between the Ontario Financing Authority, as lender, and the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "Board"), as borrower, for a loan in the principal amount of \$4,683,110 and repayable by instalments of combined (blended) principal and interest by March 13, 2034 (the "Loan Agreement"), authorized by By-law Number 2009-A1 (the "By-law")

I, John Crocco, in my capacity as Director of Education of the Board and without personal liability do hereby certify as follows (capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have their respective meanings specified in the Loan Agreement):

1. The representations and warranties of the Board in the Loan Agreement are true and correct in all material respects on and as of the date hereof with the same effect as if made on the date hereof and the Board has complied with all the agreements and satisfied all the conditions on its part to be performed or satisfied under the Loan Agreement at or prior to the date hereof;
2. There has been no Material Adverse Change with respect to the Board since the date of the Loan Agreement to the date hereof;
3. The By-law was finally passed and enacted by the Board on the 24th day of February, 2009 in full compliance with the *Education Act*, as amended (the "Act") at a duly called meeting at which a quorum was present. Forthwith after the passage of the By-law, the same was signed by the Chair of the Board, being the head of the Board, and the Director of Education of the Board. Attached as Schedule "A" hereto is a duplicate original or a certified true copy of the By-law, as the case may be;
4. No application has been made or action brought to quash, set aside or declare invalid the By-law nor has the same been in any way repealed, altered or amended and the By-law is now in full force and effect;
5. All of the recitals contained in the By-law are true in substance and fact;
6. The Loan Agreement authorized pursuant to the By-law has been duly signed by Kathy Burtnyk, the duly elected Chair of the Board, and by me, the duly appointed Treasurer of the Board, in accordance with the By-law. As at the date hereof, the respective office set forth in this paragraph is held by each of the relevant signatories to the Loan Agreement set forth in this paragraph.
7. The Loan Agreement is in all respects in accordance with the By-law and in signing the Loan Agreement and borrowing money under the Loan Agreement, the Board is not exceeding its borrowing powers;

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8. The By-law, the execution and delivery of the Loan Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby do not conflict with, or result in a breach or violation of any statutory provisions which apply to the Board or any agreement to which the Board is a party or under which the Board or any of its property is or may be bound, or, to the best of my knowledge, violate any order, award, judgment, determination, writ, injunction or decree applicable to the Board of any regulatory, administrative or other government or public body or authority, arbitrator or court.

Dated March 13, 2009

Name: John Crocco
Title: Director of Education

I, Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services of the Board do hereby certify that the signature of John Crocco, Director of Education of the Board described above, is true and genuine.

Larry Reich,
Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

CERTIFICATE OF THE TREASURER

TO: Ontario Financing Authority
AND TO: BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP

IN THE MATTER OF a loan agreement dated March 13, 2009 between the Ontario Financing Authority, as lender, and the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "Board"), as borrower, for a loan in the principal amount of \$4,683,110 and repayable by instalments of combined (blended) principal and interest by March 13, 2034 (the "Loan Agreement"), authorized by By-law Number 2009-A1 (the "By-law")

I, John Crocco, in my capacity as the Treasurer of the Board and without personal liability do hereby certify as follows (capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have their respective meanings specified in the Loan Agreement):

1. The Board has determined its annual debt and financial obligation and liability limits for each relevant fiscal year during which Eligible Projects were approved by the Board in accordance with section 3 of Ontario Regulation 472/98 (the "**Regulation**");
2. Prior to the Board's authorization of each Eligible Project and of each additional cost amount in respect thereof, if any, the Treasurer updated the relevant debt and financial obligation and liability limits in accordance with section 4 of the Regulation using the most recent limits as determined under section 3 of the Regulation and the Treasurer determined that the estimated annual amount payable in respect of each Eligible Project, and each such additional cost amount would not cause the Board to exceed its updated limits with the result that the Board could authorize each Eligible Project and each such additional cost amount without the prior approval of the Minister of Education referred to in section 4 of the Regulation;
3. Prior to the Board's passage of the By-law, I calculated the relevant updated debt and financial obligation and liability limits in accordance with the Regulation and determined that the annual amount payable in respect of the borrowing under the Loan Agreement will not cause the Board to reach or to exceed its relevant updated debt and financial obligation and liability limits and I have also determined that as at the date hereof the Board has not reached or exceeded the relevant updated debt and financial obligation and liability limits;
4. In updating the relevant debt and financial obligation and liability limits the estimated annual amount payable as described in subsection 4(2) of the Regulation was determined based on current interest rates and appropriate amortization periods which do not, except in the case of permanent improvements that are subject to a loan with the Ontario Financing Authority, if applicable, exceed the respective lifetime of any of the Eligible Projects of the Board described in such subsection, all in accordance with generally accepted accounting

principles or in accordance with the recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board, as appropriate.

Dated March 13, 2009

Name: John Crocco
Title: Treasurer

APPENDIX C

Niagara Catholic District School Board

BY-LAW NUMBER 2009-A1

A by-law to authorize a loan from the Ontario Financing Authority in the principal amount of \$4,683,110 pursuant to a loan agreement under section 12 of Ontario Regulation 466/97

WHEREAS subsection 247 (1) of the *Education Act* R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, as amended (the "*Education Act*") and the regulations made thereunder, provides that, subject to any other provision of the *Education Act* and, specifically, the regulations made under subsections 242 (1) and 247 (3) of the *Education Act*, a district school board may by by-law borrow money or incur debt for permanent improvements and may issue debentures or issue or execute any instrument prescribed under clause 247 (3) (f) of the *Education Act* in respect of the money borrowed or the debt incurred;

AND WHEREAS section 12 of Ontario Regulation 466/97, as amended by Ontario Regulation 462/06 (the "**Regulation**"), provides that (1) a board may by by-law borrow money for permanent improvements by way of a loan from the Ontario Financing Authority with an initial maturity of more than one year and that (2) a board that obtains a loan mentioned in subsection 12 (1) shall ensure that the proceeds of it are used for permanent improvements;

AND WHEREAS the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "**Board**"), which under the *Education Act* constitutes a district school board, has undertaken urgent and high priority renewal projects at schools of the Board listed in any one or more of: (i) Appendix B of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 1 Funding Allocation"; (ii) Appendix C of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 2 Funding Allocation"; and (iii) Appendix B of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 3 Funding Allocation", some of which projects are described in Schedule "A" attached to the Loan Agreement, as hereinafter defined (individually a "GPL Eligible Project", collectively the "GPL Eligible Projects") and pursuant to Ontario Regulation 85/08, each GPL Eligible Project constitutes a "permanent improvement" as defined in subsection 1(1) of the *Education Act*. In the event that the Board will borrow the principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 under the Loan Agreement in respect of a single GPL Eligible Project, the term "GPL Eligible Projects" means that GPL Eligible Project;

AND WHEREAS the GPL Eligible Projects are collectively referred to as the "Eligible Projects". In the event that the Board will borrow the principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 under the Loan Agreement in respect of a single Eligible Project, the term "Eligible Projects" means that Eligible Project;

AND WHEREAS before the Board authorized each of the Eligible Projects and before authorizing additional cost amounts in respect of the Eligible Projects (if any), the Treasurer of the Board updated the Board's most recent annual debt and financial obligation and liability limits as determined in accordance with the provisions of Ontario Regulation 472/98 and determined that the estimated annual amount payable by the Board in respect of each Eligible Project and each such additional cost amount (if any), would not cause the Board to reach or exceed its updated limits, with the result that the Board authorized each Eligible Project and each such additional cost amount (if any) without the prior approval of the Minister of Education

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“B” to the Loan Agreement; but such amount shall be paid out of the Board’s general revenue only to the extent required after taking into account funds available from other sources.

6. Any amounts payable by the Board in respect of the Loan including interest on overdue principal and interest in respect of the Loan together with fees and other amounts payable by the Board under the Loan Agreement, if applicable, shall be paid out of the Board’s general revenue or any other available funds.

7. The proceeds of the Loan, shall be used to finance the Eligible Expenditures, as defined in the Loan Agreement, in respect of the Eligible Projects on a long-term basis and for no other purpose except as permitted by the *Education Act* and the regulations made thereunder.

READ AND FINALLY PASSED this 24th day of February, 2009.

CHAIR

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

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SCHEDULE "A"

GOOD PLACES TO LEARN ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

STAGE 1 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Please specify the total amount that the Board has previously financed on a long-term basis from the OFA under the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program: \$17,271,446.

STAGE 2 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program through allocations under that program or through unspent allocations pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Please specify the total amount that the Board has previously financed on a long-term basis from the OFA under the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program: \$7,079,291.

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STAGE 3 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$4,683,110 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 3 Program through allocations under that program or through unspent allocations pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program or pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Stage 3

#	School Name	SFIS #	Description of GPL Eligible Project	Amount to be Borrowed Herunder
1	Our Lady of Victory Sr.	3574	Roof Replacement	73,517
2	Mary Ward	3408	Roof Replacement	187,738
3	St. Ann (FE)	3724	Roof Replacement	209,784
4	St. Augustine	3776	Roof Replacement	29,302
5	St. John (B)	7972	Roof Replacement	36,474
6	Notre Dame College	3484	Roof Replacement	15,683
7	St. Joseph (NF)	4112	Roofing Replacement Design	1,213
8	Father Hennepin	3211	Ventilation Upgrade Design	3,048
9	Notre Dame (NF)	3468	Ventilation Upgrade Design	5,096
10	Monsignor Clancy	3447	Ventilation Upgrade Design	41,041
11	St. Edward	7967	Ventilation Upgrade Design	2,021
12	St. Martin	7976	Ventilation Upgrade Design	28,913
13	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Ventilation Upgrade Design	7,836
14	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Ventilation Upgrade	16,548
15	Saint Paul High School	3667	Ventilation Upgrade	167,312
16	Our Lady of Grace	3533	Ventilation Upgrade	285,865
17	Monsignor Clancy	3447	Ventilation Upgrade	915,768
18	St. Nicholas	7979	Ventilation Upgrade	24,435
19	Alexander Kuska	3023	Boiler Replacement	5,228
20	St. Kevin	4159	Boiler Replacement	3,437
21	St. Ann (SC)	7958	Boiler Replacement	9,974
22	St. Denis	7965	Boiler Replacement	104,860
23	St. Philomena	4425	Parking Lot Improvements	348,157
24	St. John Bosco	4058	Parking Lot Improvements	117,988
25	St. James	7971	Parking Lot Improvements	342,276
26	St. John (B)	7972	Parking Lot Improvements	22,550
27	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Parking Lot Completion	724
28	St. Edward	7967	Parking Lot Completion	14,315
29	Notre Dame College	3484	Parking Lot Completion	53,390
30	St. Alexander	3696	Window Replacement Design	2,535
31	St. Mary (W)	4256	Window Replacement	25,134
32	St. Alfred	7957	Window Replacement	3,150
33	Father Hennepin	3211	Painting	2,746
34	Mary Ward	3408	Painting	8,031

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#	School Name	SFIS #	Description of GPL Eligible Project	Amount to be Borrowed Herunder
35	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Painting	2,691
36	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Painting	87,824
37	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Washroom Renovations	125,666
38	Notre Dame College	3484	Washroom Renovations	29,496
39	St. Charles	3847	Washroom Renovation Completion	2,419
40	St. Alfred	7957	Washroom Renovation Completion	559
41	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Washroom Renovation Completion	5,317
42	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Floor Replacement	19,112
43	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Floor Replacement	13,724
44	St. Alfred	7957	Floor Replacement	17,617
45	Holy Name	3304	Lighting Replacement	45,864
46	St. Andrew	6195	Lighting Replacement	49,069
47	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Locker Replacement	126,869
48	Saint Paul High School	3667	Locker Repair/Replacement	12,262
49	Denis Morris High School	7966	Locker Repair/Replacement	35,333
50	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Locker Repair & Painting	16,073
51	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Sports Field Design	6,849
52	Blessed Trinity	7961	Sports Field Design	33,026
53	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Playground Improvements	17,063
54	St. Ann (FE)	3724	Wheelchair Ramp Replacement	34,855
55	Alexander Kuska	3023	Sidewalk Replacement	9,079
56	St. Alfred	7957	Classroom Upgrades	14,337
57	St. Christopher	7963	Asphalt Walkway Improvements	14,535
58	St. James	7971	Outdoor Signage Replacement	3,412
59	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Transformer Replacement	131,518
60	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Security Panel Upgrade Completion	19,134
61	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Refinish Stage Floor	26,344
62	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Manufacturing Lab Upgrade	315,953
63	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Clock System Replacement	15,061
64	Saint Michael High School	10286	Welding Station Upgrades	32,614
65	Saint Paul High School	3667	Fire Alarm System Upgrade	20,126
66	Saint Paul High School	3667	Surveillance Recorder Replacement	13,208
67	Notre Dame College	3484	Office Upgrade Completion	152,487
68	Notre Dame College	3484	Digital Recorders Replacement	10,041
69	Notre Dame College	3484	Water Line Replacement	15,240
70	Denis Morris High School	7966	Dust Collection System Upgrade	6,744
71	Denis Morris High School	7966	Building Automation System Design	12,598
72	Denis Morris High School	7966	Office Upgrade Completion	57,397
73	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Gymnasium Upgrade Completion	3,494
74	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Completion of renovations	12,011
			GPTL3 Total	\$4,683,110

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SCHEDULE "A-1"

PRIMARY CLASS SIZE REDUCTION ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the PCS Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of</u> <u>PCS Eligible Project</u>	<u>Amount to be</u> <u>Borrowed</u>
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Hereunder

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SCHEDULE "A-2"

PROHIBITIVE TO REPAIR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the PTR Eligible Projects (Phase 1 and Phase 2) which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the replacement school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Phase 1

<u>Replacement</u>	<u>Description of PTR Eligible</u>	<u>Amount to be</u>
<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Project including</u>	<u>Borrowed</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>	<u>Prohibitive to Repair</u>	
	<u>School Name</u>	
		\$NIL

Phase 2

<u>Replacement</u>	<u>Description of PTR Eligible</u>	<u>Amount to be</u>
<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Project including</u>	<u>Borrowed</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>	<u>Prohibitive to Repair</u>	
	<u>School Name</u>	
		\$NIL

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SCHEDULE "A-3"

GROWTH SCHOOLS ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the Growth Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of Growth Eligible Project</u>	<u>Amount to be Borrowed</u>
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Hereunder

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SCHEDULE "A-4"

FRENCH CAPITAL TRANSITIONAL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the CTA Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of</u>	<u>Amount to be</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>	<u>CTA Eligible Project</u>	<u>Borrowed</u>

\$NIL

This Loan Agreement made in duplicate dated and effective as of the 13th day of March, 2009.

BETWEEN:

ONTARIO FINANCING AUTHORITY, a corporation established under the *Capital Investment Plan Act, 1993*, (hereinafter the "OFA")

OF THE FIRST PART

AND:

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD, a district school board continued under the *Education Act* (hereinafter the "Board")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS:

- (a) the Board has participated in a program referred to as the Good Places to Learn Program (the "GPL Program") involving urgent and high priority renewal projects at schools of the Board listed in any one or more of: (i) Appendix B of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 1 Funding Allocation"; (ii) Appendix C of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 2 Funding Allocation"; and (iii) Appendix B of the document entitled "Good Places to Learn: Stage 3 Funding Allocation", some of which projects are described in Schedule "A" attached hereto (individually a "GPL Eligible Project", collectively the "GPL Eligible Projects") and pursuant to Ontario Regulation 85/08, each GPL Eligible Project constitutes a "permanent improvement" as defined in subsection 1(1) of the *Education Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.E2, as amended (the "*Education Act*"). In the event that the Board will borrow the principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 under this Agreement in respect of a single GPL Eligible Project, the term "GPL Eligible Projects" means that GPL Eligible Project;
- (b) the GPL Eligible Projects are collectively referred to as the "Eligible Projects". In the event that the Board will borrow the principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 under this Agreement in respect of a single Eligible Project, the term "Eligible Projects" means that Eligible Project. The GPL Program IS referred to as the "Program". In the event that the Board will borrow the principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 under

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this Agreement in respect of a single Program, the term "Program" means that Program;

- (c) the Board has financed the Eligible Projects by way of temporary borrowing from a financial institution or from a reserve account and is entitled to receive grants in respect of the Eligible Projects from the Minister of Education pursuant to various regulations under the *Education Act*, as applicable, for the Board's fiscal year 2008-2009 for the payment of interest;
- (d) the Board has requested and the OFA has agreed to lend the aggregate principal amount specified in paragraph 2.1 to the Board for the purpose of financing the Eligible Projects under the specified Programs on a long-term basis which will include the repayment of temporary borrowing, if any, and the repayment of a reserve account of the Board, if any;
- (e) the Board is authorized to borrow money for permanent improvements from the Ontario Financing Authority by way of a loan pursuant to Ontario Regulation 466/97 and is authorized to receive grants for the repayment of such a loan from the Minister of Education pursuant to Ontario Regulation 85/08; and
- (f) the Board has agreed to enter into this Agreement to evidence its indebtedness and provide for the repayment of the loan to the OFA on the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained in it and subject to the terms and conditions set out in it, the parties agree as follows:

1.0

DEFINITIONS

In this Loan Agreement, unless the context or the subject matter otherwise requires:

- (a) "Advance Date" means March 13, 2009;
- (b) "Agreement" means this Agreement as it may be amended or extended from time to time by the parties in writing, including all schedules hereto and any document which the parties may at a future time mutually designate as a schedule to this Agreement, by so marking such document in writing as a schedule hereto and part hereof;

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- (c) "Aggregate Principal Amount" means the total of the Program Principal Amounts, as hereinafter defined, to be advanced to the Board pursuant to paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement and is equal to the total principal amount set out in Column 2 opposite the reference to "Aggregate Principal Amount";
- (d) "business day" means any day that is not a Saturday or Sunday and that, in the City of Toronto, is not a day on which banking institutions are generally authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close;
- (e) "dollars" or "\$" means Canadian dollars;
- (f) "Material Adverse Change" means any change or event which (i) materially impairs the ability of the Board to timely and fully perform its obligations under this Agreement, or (ii) could materially impair the ability of the OFA to enforce its rights and remedies under this Agreement; or (iii) has a material adverse effect on the operations, properties, assets, liabilities or financial condition of the Board;
- (g) "Program" means a program undertaken by the Board that is specified in paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement;
- (h) "Program Principal Amount" means the total principal amount of monies to be advanced to the Board for Eligible Projects undertaken in connection with a Program pursuant to paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement;
- (i) "Rate" means 5.062% per annum, including an administrative fee of 0.05% per annum; and
- (j) "Repayment Date" means March 13, 2034.

2.0 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT

2.1 The OFA agrees to lend to the Board and the Board agrees to borrow from the OFA the respective total principal amount specified below for each of the Programs in lawful money of Canada with interest thereon at the Rate on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement:

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1	2	3	4
PROGRAMS	PROGRAM PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS	PURPOSE FOR WHICH FUNDS WILL BE USED	STATUS OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT BY AUGUST 31, 2008
GPL Program Stage 3:	\$4,683,110.00	Funds will only be used for the GPL Eligible Projects	Underway or completed by August 31, 2008
Aggregate Principal Amount	\$4,683,110.00		

2.2 The Board acknowledges that the Rate includes an administrative fee payable to the OFA in the amount of 0.05% of the Aggregate Principal Amount outstanding per annum as specified in paragraph 1(i).

2.3 Except as otherwise agreed in writing between the Board and the OFA, the monies to be advanced by the OFA shall be advanced by the OFA to the Board by electronic funds transfer directly into the bank account designated by the Board.

2.4 The Board authorizes the OFA to open and maintain records evidencing the Board's obligations under this Agreement and to record therein all advances, interest rates, accrued interest, payments of principal and interest and the aggregate principal and accrued interest outstanding from time to time under this Agreement. The Board agrees that the records kept by the OFA, in the absence of manifest error, shall be prima facie evidence of the indebtedness of the Board and the matters recorded provided that the failure of the OFA to record or correctly record any amount or date shall not affect the obligation of the Board to repay the Aggregate Principal Amount and pay accrued interest thereon owing under this Agreement.

3.0 REPAYMENT

3.1 The Board agrees to repay the Aggregate Principal Amount together with interest thereon as follows:

- (i) the Aggregate Principal Amount and interest thereon at the Rate accrued from and including the Advance Date to but excluding the Repayment

Date shall be paid in instalments of combined (blended) principal and interest over a 25 year amortization period on the specified dates set out in the amortization schedules attached to this Agreement as Schedule "B" with the first interest payment on May 15, 2009 and thereafter semi-annual instalments to November 15, 2033 with the final payment on March 13, 2034; and

(ii) the loan shall be fully repaid on the Repayment Date.

- 3.2 If the Board fails to make any payment of principal or interest payable by it under this Agreement on the relevant due date, the overdue amount shall bear interest at the Rate (before as well as after judgment) calculated from the due date until the date of actual payment to the OFA.
- 3.3 Interest, other than interest in respect of the combined (blended) principal and interest instalments, shall be computed under this Agreement on the basis of a year of 365 days and the actual number of days elapsed.
- 3.4 If any day on which a payment is due and payable under this Agreement would otherwise fall on a day that is not a business day, such due date shall instead fall on the next succeeding business day.
- 3.5 Except as otherwise agreed in writing between the Board and the OFA and without affecting the liability of the Board under this Agreement, the monies to be repaid under this Agreement shall be repaid by the Board in immediately available funds to the OFA on the due date by pre-authorized debit from an account of the Board, such account to be designated to the OFA by the execution and delivery of the Payor Pre-Authorized Debit Agreement in a form satisfactory to the OFA ("PAD Agreement") attached to this Agreement as Schedule C, together with such other authorizations, voided cheques and other documentation as the deposit-taking institution and the rules of the Canadian Payments Association may require for such pre-authorized debit. The Board undertakes to notify the OFA and the Ministry of Education, immediately and not later than five business days prior to any instalment date or the Repayment Date, in writing of any changes in its designated account for the purposes of the pre-authorized debits and agrees to execute and deliver a revised PAD Agreement.
- 3.6 The Board is not entitled to prepay the Aggregate Principal Amount and accrued interest thereon outstanding under this Agreement except with the prior written consent of the OFA.

4.0 CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

4.1 The obligation of the OFA to advance the Program Principal Amounts pursuant to paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement is subject to the following conditions being met to the OFA's satisfaction on the Advance Date:

- (a) that the representations and warranties of the Board contained in this Agreement continue to be true and correct as at the Advance Date;
- (b) that there shall, in the reasonable opinion of the OFA, have been no Material Adverse Change with respect to the Board;
- (c) that this Agreement shall have been duly executed and delivered; and
- (d) that the OFA shall have received such other documentation in form and substance satisfactory to the OFA which it has reasonably requested to ensure that the Board is in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement including (i) a certified true copy of the necessary by-law authorizing the borrowing of the Program Principal Amounts and the execution of this Agreement, (ii) a favourable legal opinion from external legal counsel to the Board as to due authorization, execution, validity and enforceability of this Agreement and such other matters as the OFA considers necessary or appropriate, and (iii) a certificate or certificates executed by an authorized officer or officers of the Board as to the continued truth and correctness of the representations and warranties, the due authorization and execution of this Agreement and other documents, compliance with the *Education Act* and regulations made thereunder and such other matters as the OFA may reasonably request.

5.0 REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF BOARD

5.1 The Board represents and warrants to the OFA that:

- (a) the Board is a district school board under the *Education Act*;
- (b) each Eligible Project has been duly authorized by the Board at a duly called meeting of the Board at which a quorum was present by a resolution or resolutions passed by the Board (the "Resolutions"). In the event that the Board will borrow the Program Principal Amount under this Agreement in respect of a single Eligible Project and the Board has passed a single resolution in respect of the Eligible Project, the term "Resolutions" means that resolution. No application has been made or action brought to quash, set aside or declare invalid the Resolutions nor have the Resolutions been repealed, altered and amended and the

Resolutions are in full force and effect;

- (c) copies of the resolution(s) mentioned in paragraph 5.1(b) have been forwarded to the Capital Programs Branch of the Ministry of Education, if applicable;
- (d) each of the GPL Eligible Projects constitutes an eligible project under the relevant Program and has been undertaken at a school of the Board (which school may constitute a shared facility) or involves the construction of a new school for the Board;
- (e) each Eligible Project constitutes a permanent improvement within the meaning of subsection 1(1) of the *Education Act*; and the Board has obtained all necessary approvals to authorize the carrying out of the Eligible Projects by the Board and the long-term financing thereof;
- (f) the status of each Eligible Project as at August 31, 2008 is accurately set out in paragraph 2.1, the Board has incurred expenditures in respect of the relevant Programs for the Eligible Projects (the "Eligible Expenditures") and the total amount of the Eligible Expenditures in respect of the Eligible Projects undertaken at an individual school of the Board does not exceed the respective aggregate amount of expenditures authorized by the Board in respect of such school of the Board nor does such total amount exceed the expenditures authorized by the Board pursuant to the authorizations referred to in paragraph 5.1(b);
- (g) The Program Principal Amount to be borrowed by the Board under this Agreement in respect of each Program will be borrowed by the Board in respect of the Eligible Projects undertaken by the Board pursuant to that specified Program and will not be borrowed by the Board in respect of any Eligible Projects undertaken pursuant to any other Program;
- (h) the information provided by the Board to the OFA or Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, to the extent that it relates to the Board or the Eligible Projects is true and correct in all material respects when provided and remains true and correct as of the Advance Date;
- (i) the borrowing of the Aggregate Principal Amount to be advanced under this Agreement and the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement are within the powers and capacities of the Board and have been duly authorized by all necessary legal action and proper proceedings, including a by-law passed by the Board;
- (j) the borrowing of the Aggregate Principal Amount to be advanced under this Agreement, the execution and delivery of this Agreement, and the compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement will not

conflict with or result in a breach of any of the terms or provisions of the by-laws of the Board, laws of Ontario, including laws of Canada applicable therein, applicable to the Board or any contractual or other obligation binding on the Board and does not require the consent or approval of any person;

- (k) the Board has not exceeded its updated debt and financial obligation and liability limits calculated in accordance with Ontario Regulation 472/98 under the *Education Act* and has determined that the annual amount payable in respect of the borrowing under this Agreement will not cause the Board to reach or to exceed its updated limits as of the Advance Date;
- (l) this Agreement will, when executed and delivered, constitute a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Board enforceable against it in accordance with its terms;
- (m) the Board is not currently in default under any debentures or other long-term debts of any kind and undertakes to immediately inform the OFA if it is in default under any such long-term financial obligations at any time during the term of this Agreement;
- (n) the obligations of the Board under this Agreement are direct, unsecured and unsubordinated debt obligations and rank concurrently and equally in respect of payment of principal and interest with all other debentures and prescribed debt instruments of the Board, except as to the availability of any sinking fund, retirement fund or other prescribed fund applicable to any issue of debentures or such prescribed debt instruments;
- (o) the Board is not now subject to an order under the *Education Act* vesting in the Ministry of Education control and charge over the administration of the affairs of the Board;
- (p) the Aggregate Principal Amount to be borrowed under this Agreement shall be used only for the Eligible Projects, including the repayment of temporary borrowing for the Eligible Projects from a financial institution, if any, and the repayment of an amount used for the Eligible Projects to a reserve account of the Board, if any, and will not be used for any other purpose except as permitted by the *Education Act* and the regulations made thereunder;
- (q) no litigation or proceedings of any nature are now pending or threatened, attacking or in any way attempting to restrain or enjoin the execution and delivery of this Agreement or in any manner questioning the proceedings and the authority under which this Agreement is authorized, or affecting the validity thereof, or contesting the capacity of the authorized officers of the Board to sign and no authority or proceeding under which the Board is

authorized to execute this Agreement has been repealed, revoked or rescinded in whole or in part; and

- (r) there are no actions, suits or proceedings threatened or pending against the Board in any court except actions, suits or proceedings which would not result in a Material Adverse Change if determined against the Board.

5.2 The representations and warranties set out in paragraph 5.1 herein shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement, notwithstanding any investigations or examinations which may be made by counsel for the OFA.

5.3 For greater certainty, the OFA is not responsible for ensuring that the proceeds advanced to the Board are in fact used in the manner specified in paragraph 5.1(p).

6.0 COVENANTS

6.1 The Board will duly and punctually pay or cause to be paid all principal, interest, fees and other amounts payable by it under this Agreement in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement.

6.2 The Board will provide prompt notice to the OFA of the occurrence of any Event of Default, as hereinafter defined, or Material Adverse Change.

6.3 The Board will comply at all times with all of the Board's obligations in respect of the debt and financial obligation and liability limits applicable to it under the *Education Act* and the regulations made thereunder.

6.4 The Board shall allocate all grants received by it from the Ministry of Education relating to Eligible Expenditures in respect of the Eligible Projects in accordance with the applicable legislation and shall apply such grants to the payment of its obligations under this Agreement.

6.5 The Board will obtain all licences, permits, consents, approvals and other authorizations which are necessary or desirable to carry out the Eligible Projects.

6.6 The Board will provide to the Ministry of Education reports respecting the status of the Eligible Projects as requested from time to time.

7.0 DEFAULT

7.1 Failure by the Board to pay any principal, interest, fees or other amount payable by it under this Agreement, unless such default is cured within three business days after the date such payment was due, shall constitute an event of default (each, an

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“Event of Default”) and each Event of Default shall be deemed to exist and continue so long as it shall not have been remedied.

8.0 INTERCEPT AND REMEDIES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF DEFAULT

- 8.1 (a) The Board agrees that the Minister of Finance is entitled to deduct from monies appropriated by the Legislature for payment to the Board amounts equal to any amounts that the Board fails to pay under this Agreement. On the occurrence of an Event of Default, the Minister of Finance and such other Minister of the Crown as appropriate is irrevocably authorized to deduct from money appropriated by the Legislature for payment to the Board amounts equal to any amounts that the Board fails to pay to the OFA in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and to pay such amounts directly to the OFA (the “Intercept”).
- (b) The Board agrees that any notice from the OFA to the Minister of Finance in relation to this paragraph may be relied upon by such Minister without further inquiry or verification by such Minister and, upon receipt of such notice, an amount equal to the amount that the Board fails to pay to the OFA shall be deducted from money appropriated by the Legislature for payment to the Board and paid to the OFA.
- 8.2 On the occurrence of any Event of Default and at any time thereafter, so long as the same shall be continuing, the OFA may, in addition to any other remedy available to the OFA at law, at its option, by notice to the Board, invoke the Intercept mechanism to require payment of any amount due and payable under this Agreement.
- 8.3 No delay or omission of the OFA to exercise any right or remedy accruing upon any Event of Default shall impair any such right or remedy or constitute a waiver of any such Event of Default or an acquiescence therein. Every right and remedy given by this Agreement or by law to the OFA may be exercised from time to time, and as often as may be deemed expedient by the OFA.
- 8.4 No right or remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the OFA is intended to be exclusive of any other such right or remedy, and every such right and remedy shall, to the extent permitted by law, be cumulative and in addition to every other right and remedy given hereunder or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or otherwise. The assertion or employment of any right or remedy hereunder, or otherwise, shall not prevent the concurrent assertion or employment of any other appropriate right or remedy.

Fax No.

(905) 735-9710

11.2 Either party may change its address for the purposes of receipt of any such communication by giving five business days' prior written notice of such change to the other party in the manner prescribed above.

11.3 Any notice so given takes effect, in the case of delivery in person, at the time of delivery, in the case of delivery by first class prepaid post, seven business days after dispatch and, in the case of delivery by facsimile transmission, at the time of confirmation by telephone.

12.0 GENERAL

12.1 This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and the laws of Canada applicable therein.

12.2 This Agreement shall be binding on and enure to the benefit of the OFA, and the Board and their respective successors and permitted assigns, except that the Board shall not, without the prior written consent of the OFA assign, pledge or hypothecate any rights or obligations with respect to this Agreement.

12.3 If any of the provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

12.4 A party, by waiving the breach of any provision of this Agreement, does not waive any further breach of the same provision or any breach of any other provision of this Agreement. A waiver is binding on the waiving party only if it is in writing.

12.5 Subject to the provisions herein, this Agreement may not be altered or amended, except by the mutual agreement of the parties evidenced in writing.

12.6 Time shall in all respects be of the essence of this Agreement.

12.7 All references to time in this Agreement are references to Toronto time, unless otherwise indicated.

12.8 If any date on which an act is required to be taken under this Agreement is not a business day, such act shall be taken on the next following business day.

12.9 Each party shall, upon request of the other, acting reasonably, use its best efforts to make, do, execute or cause to be made, done or executed all further and other lawful acts, deeds, things, devices, documents, instruments and assurances whatever for the performance of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

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12.10 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings, negotiations and discussions, oral and written, between the parties.

12.11 This Agreement may be executed in counterparts each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Agreement.

ONTARIO FINANCING AUTHORITY

BY: _____
Michael D. Manning
Executive Director
Capital Markets Division

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD

BY: _____
Name:
Title: Chair

BY: _____
Name:
Title: Treasurer

SCHEDULE "A"

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GOOD PLACES TO LEARN ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

STAGE 1 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Please specify the total amount that the Board has previously financed on a long-term basis from the OFA under the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program: \$17,271,446.

STAGE 2 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program through allocations under that program or through unspent allocations pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Please specify the total amount that the Board has previously financed on a long-term basis from the OFA under the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program: \$7,079,291.

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STAGE 3 GPL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Please provide a list of all the GPL Eligible Projects which were either underway or completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$4,683,110 will be borrowed hereunder pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 3 Program through allocations under that program or through unspent allocations pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 1 Program or pursuant to the Good Places to Learn Stage 2 Program. Please provide the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Stage 3

#	School Name	SFIS #	Description of GPL Eligible Project	Amount to be Borrowed Herunder
1	Our Lady of Victory Sr.	3574	Roof Replacement	73,517
2	Mary Ward	3408	Roof Replacement	187,738
3	St. Ann (FE)	3724	Roof Replacement	209,784
4	St. Augustine	3776	Roof Replacement	29,302
5	St. John (B)	7972	Roof Replacement	36,474
6	Notre Dame College	3484	Roof Replacement	15,683
7	St. Joseph (NF)	4112	Roofing Replacement Design	1,213
8	Father Hennepin	3211	Ventilation Upgrade Design	3,048
9	Notre Dame (NF)	3468	Ventilation Upgrade Design	5,096
10	Monsignor Clancy	3447	Ventilation Upgrade Design	41,041
11	St. Edward	7967	Ventilation Upgrade Design	2,021
12	St. Martin	7976	Ventilation Upgrade Design	28,913
13	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Ventilation Upgrade Design	7,836
14	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Ventilation Upgrade	16,548
15	Saint Paul High School	3667	Ventilation Upgrade	167,312
16	Our Lady of Grace	3533	Ventilation Upgrade	285,865
17	Monsignor Clancy	3447	Ventilation Upgrade	915,768
18	St. Nicholas	7979	Ventilation Upgrade	24,435
19	Alexander Kuska	3023	Boiler Replacement	5,228
20	St. Kevin	4159	Boiler Replacement	3,437
21	St. Ann (SC)	7958	Boiler Replacement	9,974
22	St. Denis	7965	Boiler Replacement	104,860
23	St. Philomena	4425	Parking Lot Improvements	348,157
24	St. John Bosco	4058	Parking Lot Improvements	117,988
25	St. James	7971	Parking Lot Improvements	342,276
26	St. John (B)	7972	Parking Lot Improvements	22,550
27	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Parking Lot Completion	724
28	St. Edward	7967	Parking Lot Completion	14,315
29	Notre Dame College	3484	Parking Lot Completion	53,390
30	St. Alexander	3696	Window Replacement Design	2,535
31	St. Mary (W)	4256	Window Replacement	25,134
32	St. Alfred	7957	Window Replacement	3,150
33	Father Hennepin	3211	Painting	2,746
34	Mary Ward	3408	Painting	8,031

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#	School Name	SFIS #	Description of GPL Eligible Project	Amount to be Borrowed Herunder
35	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Painting	2,691
36	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Painting	87,824
37	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Washroom Renovations	125,666
38	Notre Dame College	3484	Washroom Renovations	29,496
39	St. Charles	3847	Washroom Renovation Completion	2,419
40	St. Alfred	7957	Washroom Renovation Completion	559
41	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Washroom Renovation Completion	5,317
42	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Floor Replacement	19,112
43	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Floor Replacement	13,724
44	St. Alfred	7957	Floor Replacement	17,617
45	Holy Name	3304	Lighting Replacement	45,864
46	St. Andrew	6195	Lighting Replacement	49,069
47	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Locker Replacement	126,869
48	Saint Paul High School	3667	Locker Repair/Replacement	12,262
49	Denis Morris High School	7966	Locker Repair/Replacement	35,333
50	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	3106	Locker Repair & Painting	16,073
51	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Sports Field Design	6,849
52	Blessed Trinity	7961	Sports Field Design	33,026
53	St. Patrick (NF)	4348	Playground Improvements	17,063
54	St. Ann (FE)	3724	Wheelchair Ramp Replacement	34,855
55	Alexander Kuska	3023	Sidewalk Replacement	9,079
56	St. Alfred	7957	Classroom Upgrades	14,337
57	St. Christopher	7963	Asphalt Walkway Improvements	14,535
58	St. James	7971	Outdoor Signage Replacement	3,412
59	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Transformer Replacement	131,518
60	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Security Panel Upgrade Completion	19,134
61	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Refinish Stage Floor	26,344
62	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Manufacturing Lab Upgrade	315,953
63	Lakeshore Catholic	3380	Clock System Replacement	15,061
64	Saint Michael High School	10286	Welding Station Upgrades	32,614
65	Saint Paul High School	3667	Fire Alarm System Upgrade	20,126
66	Saint Paul High School	3667	Surveillance Recorder Replacement	13,208
67	Notre Dame College	3484	Office Upgrade Completion	152,487
68	Notre Dame College	3484	Digital Recorders Replacement	10,041
69	Notre Dame College	3484	Water Line Replacement	15,240
70	Denis Morris High School	7966	Dust Collection System Upgrade	6,744
71	Denis Morris High School	7966	Building Automation System Design	12,598
72	Denis Morris High School	7966	Office Upgrade Completion	57,397
73	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Gymnasium Upgrade Completion	3,494
74	Holy Cross Secondary	7970	Completion of renovations	12,011
			GPTL3 Total	\$4,683,110

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SCHEDULE "A-1"

PRIMARY CLASS SIZE REDUCTION ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the PCS Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of</u> <u>PCS Eligible Project</u>	<u>Amount to be</u> <u>Borrowed</u>
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Hereunder

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SCHEDULE "A-2"

PROHIBITIVE TO REPAIR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the PTR Eligible Projects (Phase 1 and Phase 2) which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the replacement school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

Phase 1

<u>Replacement</u>	<u>Description of PTR Eligible Project including Prohibitive to Repair</u>	<u>Amount to be Borrowed</u>
<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>		

SNIL

Phase 2

<u>Replacement</u>	<u>Description of PTR Eligible Project including Prohibitive to Repair</u>	<u>Amount to be Borrowed</u>
<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>		

SNIL

SCHEDULE "A-3"

GROWTH SCHOOLS ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the Growth Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of Growth Eligible Project</u>	<u>Amount to be Borrowed</u>
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Hereunder

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SCHEDULE "A-4"

FRENCH CAPITAL TRANSITIONAL ELIGIBLE PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

Please provide a list of the CTA Eligible Projects which were substantially completed by August 31, 2008 (and in respect of which the Eligible Expenditures have not been previously financed on a long-term basis) in respect of which a total of \$0.00 will be borrowed hereunder. Please include the name of the school, the SFIS number, a project description and the amount to be borrowed hereunder.

<u>School Name/SFIS</u>	<u>Description of</u>	<u>Amount to be</u>
<u>Hereunder</u>	<u>CTA Eligible Project</u>	<u>Borrowed</u>

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SCHEDULE "B"
CONSOLIDATED AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE

Organization Name: Niagara Catholic District School Board
 Consolidated Principal Amount (\$): \$4,683,110.00
 Annual Interest Rate (%): 5.062% (includes Annual Admin Fee)
 Annual Admin Fee (%): 0.05%
 Loan Term (Years): 25
 Loan Date (m/d/yyyy): 3/13/2009
 Maturity Date (m/d/yyyy): 3/13/2034
 Payment Frequency: 6
 Loan Type: Amortize

Payment Date	Total Payment	Principal Amount	Interest Amount	Admin Fee	Principal Balance
5/15/2009	\$40,917.04	\$0.00	\$40,512.88	\$404.16	\$4,683,110.00
11/16/2009	\$166,736.12	\$48,206.61	\$117,358.73	\$1,170.78	\$4,634,903.39
5/17/2010	\$166,736.12	\$49,426.72	\$116,150.67	\$1,158.73	\$4,585,476.67
11/15/2010	\$166,736.12	\$50,677.71	\$114,912.04	\$1,146.37	\$4,534,798.96
5/16/2011	\$166,736.12	\$51,960.36	\$113,642.06	\$1,133.70	\$4,482,838.60
11/15/2011	\$166,736.12	\$53,275.48	\$112,339.93	\$1,120.71	\$4,429,563.12
5/15/2012	\$166,736.12	\$54,623.88	\$111,004.85	\$1,107.39	\$4,374,939.24
11/15/2012	\$166,736.12	\$56,006.41	\$109,635.98	\$1,093.73	\$4,318,932.83
5/15/2013	\$166,736.12	\$57,423.93	\$108,232.46	\$1,079.73	\$4,261,508.90
11/15/2013	\$166,736.12	\$58,877.33	\$106,793.41	\$1,065.38	\$4,202,631.57
5/15/2014	\$166,736.12	\$60,367.51	\$105,317.95	\$1,050.66	\$4,142,264.06
11/17/2014	\$166,736.12	\$61,895.42	\$103,805.13	\$1,035.57	\$4,080,368.64
5/15/2015	\$166,736.12	\$63,461.99	\$102,254.04	\$1,020.09	\$4,016,906.65
11/16/2015	\$166,736.12	\$65,068.21	\$100,663.68	\$1,004.23	\$3,951,838.44
5/16/2016	\$166,736.12	\$66,715.09	\$99,033.07	\$987.96	\$3,885,123.35
11/15/2016	\$166,736.12	\$68,403.65	\$97,361.19	\$971.28	\$3,816,719.70
5/15/2017	\$166,736.12	\$70,134.94	\$95,647.00	\$954.18	\$3,746,584.76
11/15/2017	\$166,736.12	\$71,910.06	\$93,889.41	\$936.65	\$3,674,674.70
5/15/2018	\$166,736.12	\$73,730.10	\$92,087.35	\$918.67	\$3,600,944.60
11/15/2018	\$166,736.12	\$75,596.21	\$90,239.67	\$900.24	\$3,525,348.39
5/15/2019	\$166,736.12	\$77,509.55	\$88,345.23	\$881.34	\$3,447,838.84
11/15/2019	\$166,736.12	\$79,471.32	\$86,402.84	\$861.96	\$3,368,367.52
5/15/2020	\$166,736.12	\$81,482.74	\$84,411.29	\$842.09	\$3,286,884.78
11/16/2020	\$166,736.12	\$83,545.07	\$82,369.33	\$821.72	\$3,203,339.71
5/17/2021	\$166,736.12	\$85,659.59	\$80,275.70	\$800.83	\$3,117,680.12
11/15/2021	\$166,736.12	\$87,827.64	\$78,129.06	\$779.42	\$3,029,852.48
5/16/2022	\$166,736.12	\$90,050.55	\$75,928.11	\$757.46	\$2,939,801.93
11/15/2022	\$166,736.12	\$92,329.73	\$73,671.44	\$734.95	\$2,847,472.20
5/15/2023	\$166,736.12	\$94,666.60	\$71,357.65	\$711.87	\$2,752,805.60

D21

SCHEDULE "B"
CONSOLIDATED AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE

Organization Name: Niagara Catholic District School Board
 Consolidated Principal Amount (\$): \$4,683,110.00
 Annual Interest Rate (%): 5.062% (includes Annual Admin Fee)
 Annual Admin Fee (%): 0.05%
 Loan Term (Years): 25
 Loan Date (m/d/yyyy): 3/13/2009
 Maturity Date (m/d/yyyy): 3/13/2034
 Payment Frequency: 6
 Loan Type: Amortize

Payment Date	Total Payment	Principal Amount	Interest Amount	Admin Fee	Principal Balance
11/15/2023	\$166,736.12	\$97,062.61	\$68,985.31	\$688.20	\$2,655,742.99
5/15/2024	\$166,736.12	\$99,519.26	\$66,552.92	\$663.94	\$2,556,223.73
11/15/2024	\$166,736.12	\$102,038.10	\$64,058.96	\$639.06	\$2,454,185.63
5/15/2025	\$166,736.12	\$104,620.68	\$61,501.89	\$613.55	\$2,349,564.95
11/17/2025	\$166,736.12	\$107,268.63	\$58,880.10	\$587.39	\$2,242,296.32
5/15/2026	\$166,736.12	\$109,983.60	\$56,191.95	\$560.57	\$2,132,312.72
11/16/2026	\$166,736.12	\$112,767.29	\$53,435.75	\$533.08	\$2,019,545.43
5/17/2027	\$166,736.12	\$115,621.43	\$50,609.80	\$504.89	\$1,903,924.00
11/15/2027	\$166,736.12	\$118,547.80	\$47,712.34	\$475.98	\$1,785,376.20
5/15/2028	\$166,736.12	\$121,548.25	\$44,741.53	\$446.34	\$1,663,827.95
11/15/2028	\$166,736.12	\$124,624.63	\$41,695.53	\$415.96	\$1,539,203.32
5/15/2029	\$166,736.12	\$127,778.88	\$38,572.44	\$384.80	\$1,411,424.44
11/15/2029	\$166,736.12	\$131,012.97	\$35,370.29	\$352.86	\$1,280,411.47
5/15/2030	\$166,736.12	\$134,328.91	\$32,087.11	\$320.10	\$1,146,082.56
11/15/2030	\$166,736.12	\$137,728.77	\$28,720.83	\$286.52	\$1,008,353.79
5/15/2031	\$166,736.12	\$141,214.69	\$25,269.34	\$252.09	\$867,139.10
11/17/2031	\$166,736.12	\$144,788.83	\$21,730.51	\$216.78	\$722,350.27
5/17/2032	\$166,736.12	\$148,453.43	\$18,102.10	\$180.59	\$573,896.84
11/15/2032	\$166,736.12	\$152,210.79	\$14,381.86	\$143.47	\$421,686.05
5/16/2033	\$166,736.12	\$156,063.25	\$10,567.45	\$105.42	\$265,622.80
11/15/2033	\$166,736.12	\$160,013.21	\$6,656.50	\$66.41	\$105,609.59
3/13/2034	\$107,337.87	\$105,609.59	\$1,711.21	\$17.07	\$0.00
Total:	\$8,318,324.79	\$4,683,110.00	\$3,599,307.87	\$35,906.92	

D22

SCHEDULE "C"

PAYOR PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT AGREEMENT
(this "PAD Agreement")

TO: Ontario Financing Authority (the "OFA")

Payor (the "Board"):

Niagara Catholic District School Board
Full Legal Name

Niagara Catholic District School Board
Exact Name in which Account is Held

427 Rice Road
Address

1-905-735-0240
Telephone Number

Welland
City

Ontario : L3C 7C1
Province Postal Code

Payor's Financial Institution (the "Bank"):

CIBC
Name of Bank

22 King St.
Address

Welland
City

Ontario : L3B 3H9
Province Postal Code

95-11512
Bank Account No.

00872 : 10
Branch No. Institution No.

1. Scope

The Board acknowledges that this PAD Agreement is provided for the benefit of the OFA and the Bank, and is provided in consideration of the Bank agreeing to process pre-authorized debits (each, a "PAD") against the Board's account specified above (the "Account") in accordance with the rules of the Canadian Payments Association (the "CPA").

The Board represents that all information provided with respect to the Account is complete and accurate. A specimen cheque if available for the Account has been marked "VOID" and is attached to this PAD Agreement.

The Board undertakes to inform the OFA in writing of any change in the Account information provided in this PAD Agreement at least 5 business days prior to the next following PAD.

2. Valid Authority

The Board warrants and guarantees that all persons whose signatures are required to sign on the Account have signed this PAD Agreement.

3. Purpose of Debits, Amount and Timing

Business PAD

The Board authorizes the OFA to debit or cause to be debited a fixed amount from the Account which amount will be debited with set frequency determined by the Board in its sole discretion. The Board and the OFA agree that the fixed amount of each such debit is for payment due and owing by the Board to the OFA in respect of a loan agreement dated as of March 13, 2009.

4. Cancellation of Agreement

This PAD Agreement may be cancelled at any time upon notice being provided by the Board, in writing at least 5 business days prior to the next following PAD. The Board acknowledges that, in order to revoke this authorization, the Board must provide notice of revocation to the OFA. This PAD Agreement applies only to the method of payment and does not otherwise have any bearing on the payment obligations of the Board to the OFA.

5. Acceptance of Delivery of Authorization

The Board acknowledges that providing and delivering this agreement to the OFA constitutes delivery by the Board to the Bank. Any delivery of this authorization to the OFA constitutes delivery by the Board.

6. Waiver of Pre-Notification

The Board understands that no pre-notification shall be required prior to a PAD being exchanged or cleared provided the authorization occurs in compliance with this PAD Agreement.

The Board authorizes and instructs the OFA to issue, without pre-notification, a new PAD for a dishonoured PAD amount in accordance with this Agreement.

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7. Validation by the Bank

The Board acknowledges that the Bank is not required to verify that a PAD has been issued in accordance with the particulars of the PAD Agreement including, but not limited to, the amount.

The Board acknowledges that the Bank is not required to verify that any purpose of payment for which the PAD was issued has been fulfilled by the OFA as a condition to honouring a PAD issued or caused to be issued by the OFA on the Account.

8. Payor's Rights of Dispute

The Board may dispute a pre-authorized debit under the following conditions:

- (i) the debit was not drawn in accordance with this PAD Agreement; or
- (ii) this PAD Agreement was revoked or cancelled.

In order to be reimbursed, the Board must complete a declaration form to the effect that either (i) or (ii) took place at the above indicated branch of the Bank up to and including 10 calendar days, after the date on which the PAD in dispute was posted to the Account.

The Board acknowledges that disputes after the above noted time limitation are matters to be resolved solely between the OFA and the Board.

9. Contact Information

All notices sent by the Board to the OFA under Sections 1., 4. and 8. of this PAD Agreement shall be made in writing by letter and delivered to the OFA by registered mail or fax at the following address:

Ontario Financing Authority
1 Dundas Street West
Suite 1400
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y7
Fax: (416) 204-6659

Inquiries, concerns or errors regarding PADs may be directed to Mr. Joe Pedota, Coordinator, Settlements, Payments & Fiscal Agency, Finance and Reporting Division at the above address or by telephone at (416) 325-3851.

10. Board Acceptance

The Board acknowledges receipt of a signed copy of this PAD Agreement. The Board acknowledges that it has read, understands, and accepts the terms and conditions of this PAD Agreement.

Signature of Treasurer

(Date)

Signature of Chair

(Date)

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Appendix C

COPY OF VOID CHEQUE

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
427 RICE ROAD, WELLAND, ONTARIO L3C 7C1

CONTROL NO. **A 20725**

VENDOR NO. _____ DATE _____ CHEQUE NO. _____

PAY. **VOID** CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE
52 KING STREET WELLAND, ONTARIO L3B 3H9
GENERAL ACCOUNT

TO THE ORDER OF _____ AMOUNT _____

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICERS _____

⑆00872⑆010⑆ 95⑆11512⑆

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: BOARD SUBMISSION TO GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Board's Submission on the Ontario School Board Governance for the 21st Century Consultation Paper to the Governance Review Committee, as presented.

Prepared by: Trustees and the Director of Education
Presented by: Kathy Burtnik, Chairperson
Date: February 24, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board

Response To The

ONTARIO SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE
FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

CONSULTATION PAPER

Approved by the Board on February 24th, 2009

Discussion Guide 1:

Modernizing the *Education Act*

Key considerations:

- Legislation is outdated in regard to the duties and powers of school boards and does not address expectations for educational outcomes.
- There is a lack of clarity with regard to the roles of school boards, chairs, individual board members, and directors of education.
- While the legislation identifies and gives powers to a school board as one entity, some individual board members deal directly with supervisory officers and/or other staff members.
- A number of other provinces and boards have recently modernized the governance of their elementary/secondary sector. British Columbia, for example, requires boards to submit an achievement contract annually to the Minister of Education. In Québec, school boards must adopt and make public a strategic plan that includes ways of assessing the achievement of objectives.
- The Director of Education has a significant impact on a board's performance. However, conflicts may arise for a Director from differences between the policy objectives of the board and directives from the Ministry.
- Some have suggested that Directors of Education should have a dual accountability—to the board and to the Minister, as was the case in the past in Ontario.

Discussion guide 1:

- 1) For what should school boards be accountable?
 - student achievement
 - developing discerning believers formed in the Catholic community
 - ensuring that the Boards mission statement is actioned
 - establish policy
 - holding Director of Education accountable for the implementation of local and provincial education policy
 - oversee the Director of Education to ensure effective and efficient operation of the Board and the implementation of the provincial education agenda
 - represent the beliefs and values of our collective communities

2) What are the appropriate roles and responsibilities of:

a) the board?

- macro management of the initiatives of the Board
- addressing the needs of individual communities while balancing the overall interests of the broader communities
- appointing and holding accountable and supporting the Director of Education who is an authentic Catholic leader in implementing the vision for the Board while delivering the provincial education mandates
- providing governance and policy inspired by the Catholic faith
- being open and available to be sounding boards for members of the community.
- to establish and monitor priorities of the Board

b) the Chair?

- Chair effective meetings
- with Director of Education be the spokesperson of the Board
- with Director of Education set Board meeting agendas
- provide leadership and be a Catholic model for all Trustees

c) individual trustees?

- represent the entire Board
- make decisions in the best interest of the entire Board while representing individual communities
- recognizing that each individual trustee has no decision making authority, yet collectively realizing their legal responsibilities as a Board as a decision making body
- Catholic role models for their communities and the system as a whole
- advocate for publicly funded Catholic education
- follow all Board policies and procedures

d) the Director of Education?

- hold staff accountable for student achievement
- as CEO of the Board - the connection between the Board and staff
- be an exemplary role model for all Catholic educators in the Board
- provide honest and forthright leadership for the interest of the students
- delegate trust and authority to subordinates
- responsible for implementing the Education Act, MOE Policy and Board Policy
- responsible for the day to day operation of the Board
- providing clear and relevant information to facilitate the Board making informed decisions
- representing the best interests of the Board in the media and in the broader community
- link and liaison with community partners such as the Diocese, coterminous Boards and various levels of government
- effective communication with the Chair, Vice-Chair and all Trustees

3) Should Directors of Education have a dual reporting relationship - to the board and to the Minister as was the case not long ago in Ontario? If so, how should any conflicts between the mandates from the Minister and a school board be resolved?

- currently Directors of Education have dual reporting responsibilities for accountability
- mediation process through independent body as established in consultation with MOE, Boards, associations
- Boards cannot supersede the authority of the Education Act / Regulations

Discussion Guide 2:

Identifying Effective Governance Practices

Key considerations:

- Effective governance is essential for school boards as public bodies responsible to their communities and to government.
- A number of boards have made significant changes in their governance models and practices in recent years, but there remains a need for sector - wide discussion about what constitutes effective governance and relevant indicators of effectiveness.
- Transparency, accountability and public confidence are enhanced by some boards through clear public communication (such as posting board meeting minutes on their websites in a timely fashion, communicating procedures and opportunities for public presentations, and communicating effectively with the broader community).
- Many jurisdictions have focused on the need for an enforceable Code of Ethics and/or Code of Conduct for school board members. Boards in Québec, for example, are required under legislation to establish a Code of Ethics and to designate persons who will enforce the code. Legislation also requires boards to publish their code of ethics policy in their annual report, state the number of cases dealt with, the breaches of the policy and the penalties imposed. Nova Scotia has recently passed legislation that will require boards to adopt a standardized, enforceable code of ethics as well as procedural by-laws for the conduct of meetings. In August 2008, the Halifax Regional School Board released a discussion paper entitled “Good Governance” in order to gather public input and inform the next elected board about public expectations in this regard. Legislation in Newfoundland & Labrador, Saskatchewan, and Alberta includes provisions for the removal of individual board members for specified conduct or breaches of duty.
- A number of education experts propose that in order to be effective and function well, school boards must focus on student achievement and have few distractions from that primary focus.

Discussion guide 2:

- 1) What is effective governance by elected school boards?
 - establishing clear By-Laws that guide the actions of the Board
 - to establish clear and effective policies that guide the actions of the Director of Education
 - focus on student achievement, oversight and accountability
 - the primary role as elected Trustee officials is to be accountable first and foremost to students and the local electorate / community
- 2) What would enhance the ability of boards to address local needs within the context of provincially mandated priorities?
 - provide a local priority funding model
 - enhance relationship and financial partnering between all Ministry’s to support local educational initiatives and issues related to student achievement

- 3) What governance practices have you seen that work well?
 - utilize the Carver model
 - clearly defined roles and responsibilities at the Senior Staff level
 - respect an understanding for the various roles within a Board
 - self evaluation of a Board's responsibilities
 - information workshops for Trustees
 - frequent review of by-laws, policies and administrative guidelines
 - comprehensive annual performance review of the Director of Education

- 4) What practices and policies support effective governance?
 - access to the appropriate information to make timely and effective decisions
 - access to the resources of Senior Staff
 - Policy on Complaint Procedures leads to effective governance

- 5) Should there be a provincial code of conduct/ethics for school board members or should such a code be developed locally? How should codes of conduct/ethics be enforced?
 - provide a provincial code of conduct with the ability to augment for local Catholic Trustees to conduct socially, morally respecting the integrity and individuality of the collective Board
 - conflict of interest that speaks to the role of Trustees rather than within a municipal framework

- 6) Should boards be required to establish and implement specific policies and procedures to enhance good governance? What would these be?
 - Yes – specific policies
 - Director of Education, as the CEO, with full authority to implement Board policy to ensure compliance
 - Board monitors implementation, not directs implementation

Discussion Guide 3:

Supporting School Board Leaders

Key considerations:

- In *Energizing Ontario Education*, the government committed to ensuring that board members have the supports they need to make sound decisions to further student achievement, reduce gaps in achievement, and increase confidence in publicly funded education.
- Although trustee organizations and some individual school boards provide professional development for trustees, participation is generally voluntary. Some board members or chairs report that they feel ill-equipped to act effectively and are unclear about their roles and responsibilities.
- While supports are available to help board members develop their capacities there is no consistent, long-term graduated approach to board capacity-building.
- A number of U.S. states have mandatory training programs for school trustees (e.g. Kentucky, South Carolina, and New York). Other public sectors have modernized board capacity building; The Ontario Hospitals Association, for example, has established a Governance Centre of Excellence and offers certificate courses to board members appropriate to their level of experience.

Discussion guide 3:

1) What type of training might be offered to school board members?

- a one or two day course at the beginning of each term should be offered by OCSTA with Ministry content. Could include overview of education on Ontario, meeting procedures / Roberts rules of order etc., budget process, who's-who, code of conduct, legal responsibilities, etc. etc.
- local Boards should follow this up with a one day course that covers an overview of the local board, current policies, staff overview, facilities overview, etc.
- the Ministry should support a training program at the start of each elected term which should be offered in conjunction with OCSTA and should cover a broad range of topics including the provincial budget process and curriculum expectations. This training could be offered in a conference/ workshop setting held over the course of a few days.

2) Should training be mandatory?

- Yes. A few days invested at the beginning of each term would ensure all trustees start with an equal understanding, would save much board staff time as trustees "learn as they go" and would also provide team building opportunities.
- Training is necessary to ensure that each Trustee has at least a general understanding of the role he /she plays and it would also serve to expedite the meetings in a quicker fashion as the learning curve for new trustees would hopefully be lessened.

- 3) What type of ongoing support can be offered to enable board members and Chairs to continue to build the capacity of elected boards? How could this support be delivered?
- other seminars and training can be offered thru provincial associations (OCSTA) much like what is currently done.
 - through OCSTA and the ministry ongoing workshops of particular relevance to an issue should be made available to all trustees.
- 4) What supports should be offered to Directors of Education to assist the in providing effective leadership for governance functions?
- Director of Education must receive the same training as Trustees
 - Director of Education requires in-service on new approaches to governance and reporting

Discussion Guide 4:

Strengthening School Board Accountability

Key considerations:

- The current legislative framework is not specific about school boards' mandate in relation to the government's three key priorities: improving student outcomes, closing gaps in achievement, and increasing confidence in our publicly funded education system.
- While the government has goals concerning student achievement, the "standards" to which boards should be held accountable have not been discussed. Legislation (Section 11.1 of the *Act*) provides the government with the ability to set standards by regulation, and the Minister with authority to intervene if there is evidence those standards are not being achieved. As yet, no regulations have been made regarding what those standards would be, what circumstances would trigger government intervention or in what stages.

Discussion guide 4:

- 1) To what standards should boards be held accountable in the areas of literacy and numeracy, and graduation rates?
 - there are already many accountabilities in place. Trustees only need to hold the Director of Education accountable to ensure they are met.
 - difficult to answer the remaining questions for a Board that is performing well as Boards are already held accountable.
 - Boards are already held accountable in these areas and the Director of Education is primarily responsible for ensuring the Board standards are upheld.
- 2) What other student outcomes and implementation measures should be specified in regulation in order to ensure quality of education?
 - all provincially mandated priorities
 - goals / strategic plans in place to specifically address strategies to reach goals
 - focus on student achievement
- 3) How should school boards demonstrate accountability for student outcomes?
 - annual reporting to communities
 - revised Director's Annual report a step forward
 - feedback from Parent Involvement Committee and Catholic School Councils

4) Should the Minister intervene if a board is systematically underperforming and failing to meet a provincial standard? At what points and in what manner should intervention occur? What stages should be involved and what supports should be made available to a board in such a situation?

- the government has a role to play with respect to intervention should the results of a board prove to be glaringly below provincial standards however I would hope that preventative measures would have been implemented long before the Ministry needed to step in.
- examination of best practices in other boards should be used to assist boards that are not meeting Ministry objectives.

5) Are there mitigating factors that should be considered in contexts where standards are not met?

- demographics of a particular area would need to be examined as they can play a role in levels of achievement

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board
Board Meeting
Public Session
February 24, 2009

TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC - FEBRUARY 10, 2009



Spotlight ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC

www.niagaracatholic.ca

February 12, 2009

Niagara Catholic Students Speak Out!

For months, Niagara Catholic Junior and Intermediate students have been hard at work on speeches they would deliver in the annual Speak Out! competitions.

After deciding on their topics, they researched, wrote and revised their speeches.

In January, students began delivering speeches in front of their classes, where they were judged on the content, length and delivery of their speech. Those who received the top marks moved on to their school-wide contests, with the winners in the Junior and Intermediate divisions moving on to speak at their regional Speak Out! competition.

On February 9, the first-place finishers in the Junior and Intermediate divisions, as well as the winner of the Catholic Messenger Award from regional Family of Schools Speak Out!, presented their speeches at Speak Out! Showcase 2009 at the Catholic Education Centre and to Trustees at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 10.



Left to right: Mahmoud Nasser, Emma Lorenzi, Emily Misk and Lina Abril with John Crocco, Director of Education, Kathy Burtnik, Chairperson and Frank Fera, Vice-Chairperson at the January 10 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Revised FACS Protocol Signed

Director of Education, John Crocco and Chris Steven, Executive Director of Family and Children's Services signed the revised Protocol between Family and Children's Services Niagara and Niagara Catholic (FACS) at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on February 10.

The Protocol clarifies procedures between the Board and FACS in response to children who may be in need of protection.



The partnership of
The Niagara Catholic District School Board
and
Family and Children's Services Niagara

is central to the personal welfare and growth of
the children we serve.

This agreement is intended to foster understanding
and enable caring professionals to work
together more effectively.

We the undersigned support the principles
and protocol set out in this document.

John Crocco, Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board

Feb 10 2009
February 2009

Chris Steven, Executive Director
Family and Children's Services Niagara

Feb 10 2009
February 2009



Speak Out winners

AREA 1

JUNIOR DIVISION

Maryrose D'Arenzio, Michael J. Brennan
Catholic Elementary School, *What If*

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Kelly Webb, St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary
School, *Body Image*

CATHOLIC MESSENGER AWARD

Lina Abril, St. James Catholic Elementary
School, *My New Life in Canada*

AREA 2

JUNIOR DIVISION

Emma Lorenzi, St. Ann Catholic Elementary
School (SC), *Too Much Technology*

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Vito A. Forgione, St. Peter Catholic
Elementary School, *What it is Like to be Italian*

CATHOLIC MESSENGER AWARD

Laura Fillingham, Mother Teresa Catholic
Elementary School, *Change in Racial Attitude*

AREA 3

JUNIOR DIVISION

Simone Waller, St. Joseph Catholic
Elementary School, Snyder, *Ticks*

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Breton Lalama, St. Ann Catholic Elementary
School Fenwick, *Beginnings, Middles and
Endings*

CATHOLIC MESSENGER AWARD

Evan Nohara, St. Alexander Catholic
Elementary School, *Rwanda Genocide*

AREA 4

JUNIOR DIVISION

Kaila Raimondo, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic
Elementary School, *The Power of One*

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Emily Misk, Sacred Heart Catholic
Elementary School, *Speeches Throughout
History*

CATHOLIC MESSENGER AWARD

Mahmoud Nasser, Loretto Catholic
Elementary School, *Violence Against Children*

St. Kevin Student Takes The Helm: Extends Recess, Cancels Homework, All For Kids Helping Kids



Greg Foran, a Grade 8 student St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School, became Principal for a Day, February 9, as the winner of a draw held in support of the 11th annual Kids Helping Kids campaign, which took place at Niagara Catholic schools February 9-12. To date, Niagara Catholic's Kids Helping Kids Campaigns have raised more than \$410,000 for the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre, which helps about 3,000 students each year with communicative problems.

Proposed School Year Calendar 2009-2010

Parents, guardians, teachers and students may have a new experience at the end of August and the first week in September 2009.

Between September 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, there are a possible 196 school days. However, with Labour Day falling on September 8, the number of possible school days is reduced to 192.

The Ministry of Education requires a school year to include a minimum of 194 days, including two professional activity days dedicated to provincial educational priorities and four which focus on the Board's priorities. As well, a maximum of ten instructional days must be set aside for secondary school examinations.

The 2009-2010 School Year Calendar Committee met in January to review options to ensure students receive the required amount of instructional time in the new school year.

Although a final decision on how the 2009-2010 school year will look has yet to be determined, there is the potential that the 2009-2010 school year may start earlier than usual, prior to Labour Day. A number of possible options are currently being discussed.

The School Year Calendar Committee will meet again on February 19 to review feedback received on the draft calendar from stakeholders across Niagara Catholic.

The Ministry of Education requires all Boards in Ontario to submit Board-approved modified school year calendars by March 1, 2009. The 2009-2010 School Year Calendar, once approved, will be posted at www.niagaracatholic.ca and communicated to all families.

A+++

+ Congratulations to students at St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School in Wainfleet, who collected \$435 in Canadian Tire money to help a family in their community who lost their home and belongings in a fire.

+ Congratulations to Aaron Vasas, a Transportation Technology teacher at Notre Dame College School. Aaron was presented with the Lincoln Fabrics' Annual Teacher Award at the BEC Breakfast on February 6.

+ Good luck to Nicholas Nolan, a Grade 6 student at Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School, and Grade 6 student Haille Nickerson from Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School (G) who will represent the entire Niagara Region in the Southern Ontario Regional Spelling Bee in Hamilton February 15.

Upcoming

Feb 16 Family Day (No school)
Feb 17 Niagara Falls Elementary PAR
Feb 18 St. Catharines Elementary PAR
Feb 23 St. Catharines Secondary PAR
Feb 24 Board Meeting



Niagara Catholic receives \$20,000

Niagara Catholic, on behalf of twenty-seven Catholic School Councils, received nearly \$20,000 in Parents Reaching Out funding from the Ministry of Education for the 2008-2009 school year.

The money will be used to fund various faith-based, literacy, numeracy, health and student success workshops and programs this year.

Nurturing Souls and Building Minds